

St Andrew's Society of Oakland

3565 Whitehall Court
Pleasanton, CA 94588

ST ANDREW'S ECHOES



St Andrew's Society of Oakland Echoes

January 2009 Issue

Society News

Please remember that the next meeting will be held at Redcoats Pub, 336 St Mary's Street, Pleasanton on Thursday 15th January 2009. The meeting will commence at 8 pm as usual.

If you are coming from the 580, take the Santa Rita exit and head south (right). Santa Rita Road becomes Main Street, then turn right onto Saint Mary Street. You will find Redcoats on the left hand side. If you are coming from the 680 take the Bernal Ave and turn left onto Main Street. Keep going until you get to Saint Mary Street and turn left into it.

December Business Meeting

There is not much to report from December's meeting as the installation of the new officers took place.

Our New Officers for 2009 are:

President – Kenny Lawrence
VP – Steve Wigley
Treasurer – Ian Myles
Secretary – Nancy Wigley
Chaplain – Ann Kelly
Flag bearer – Colin Ritchie
Sick/Relief – Jacqueline Ritchie
Trustees – Billy Edmiston, Joe Collins, Ian Myles, Martin Deehan, Alan Purves
Historian – Billy Edmiston
Editor: Still need an Editor, so please help your Society out.

Also, please remember that dues are due! If you haven't already paid your annual fee of \$25 per member, please send your checks to Ian Myles, Treasurer, 38346 Jacaranda Court, Newark, CA 94560.



Happy Birthday to You!

January birthday wishes go to –

Sean Collins – 1

Ann Kelly - 2

Dorothy Mackay Collins – 10

Ernestine Moir – 27

Happy Birthday and Best Wishes from the St Andrew's Society of Oakland



The St Andrew's Society of Oakland Burns Supper will be held on the 21st February 2009 at Dick's Restaurant. More details in the next issue.

Since the last meeting I have very sad news to convey. Donald Davidson's wife sadly passed away on December 19th. She had suffered a heart attack and was admitted to hospital for surgery where she underwent a bypass operation. The operation was a success, but sadly Sylvia did not wake up.

The following is Sylvia's Summary of Life that I have copied from the Order of Service, which was held on December 30th at the Presbyterian Church in Discovery Bay:

Married 55 years to her husband, Donald Sr., Sylvia was "a jack of all trades and a master of all." Born and raised in Scotland she was a window dresser by trade. In America she was a florist and then a hairdresser before finally finding her calling in the travel industry as a travel agent.

Sylvia had a passion for living life to its fullest. She was an avid world traveler, having visited many countries in her lifetime. By far, her favorite mode of travel was by cruise ship, having forty plus cruises to her credit. Her elite membership to Princess Cruise Lines gave her special perks such as free computer time and free laundry; being a frugal Scots woman, that was a big deal to her!

Sylvia's other passions included shopping, shopping and more shopping! She also enjoyed many different arts and crafts and had a particular interest in oil painting. She left numerous treasured mementos of her artistic talents behind in her and her family's homes.

She was a loving wife to Donald Davidson Sr. and a loving mother to her four children, Donald J., Ian, Stuart and Colin. She was a caring and energetic grandmother to her fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. She received tremendous pleasure from spoiling her grandchildren rotten with trips to some of her favorite places such as, Disneyland, Universal Studios and Hawaii.

On Sylvia's arrival to the States from Canada she and her family rented an apartment in Alameda for 2 years before buying a home in Hayward where she raised her four boys for

the next 20 years. She then moved back to Alameda for the next 23 years before coming to settle into her "Dream Home" at Sunnyside in Brentwood where she was graciously surrounded by her wonderful neighbors who she endeared as her extended family.

The last social event I saw Sylvia at was at the Senior's Christmas party at our house, which was held on the 7th December. It truly was a lovely day and I'm glad that I was able to see Sylvia enjoying herself along with all her friends.

Family and friends are also invited to attend a celebration of Sylvia's life on Sunday, January 11th from 1:00 pm at the Sunnyside Four Lodge, 770 Centennial Place in Brentwood, CA 94513. Here is the link for the Notice of Sylvia on the Bay Area News Group website:
<http://www.legacy.com/Link.asp?I=LS000121874037X>

December was clearly a time for sad news, I'm afraid. Our newly installed Chaplain, Ann Kelly, lost her boyfriend to a Stroke on December 19th. Cary Thomas was a dear, close friend and companion to Ann who loved him deeply. I attended Cary's memorial service and was able to see how well known and loved Cary was throughout the Pleasanton community. He knew everyone in the town and he had a cheery word to say to all he met. He attended the Banquet in November with Ann, and thoroughly enjoyed the evening. He was a loving, kind, caring man; a soul mate to Ann, and leaves behind a son and daughter, his mum and three brothers.

Before putting this copy of the newsletter to print, I received a phone call to say that our oldest member, Ralph Paulk, passed away at 11 pm on Tuesday 6th January 2009. Ian Myles, Billy Edmiston and Douglas Unsworth visited Ralph on December 23rd and Ian filled me in on the visit. He said that Ralph turned 93 in August and figured that he must be the oldest member of the Society. Ralph and his wife Wanda have been married for 67 years.

He was very proud of being a Society member, and proud of being the Society Chaplain for a number of years up to 1990 and would always look forward to the Echoes. He was proud of being of Scottish descent going all the way back to 1665 when the Paulks (or Pollocks) left Scotland for Georgia and Virginia. He was a US Marine serving in WWII in the Pacific and on the staff of Admiral King. It was Ralph that did a restoration of the Society's Burns portrait. He was a terrific artist.

If anyone wishes to contact Wanda to send condolences, etc, this is the address:

19690 Camden Ave, Hayward CA 94541



BURNS Supper 2009

❖ Celebrating the 250th Birthday of ROBERT BURNS ❖

*Saturday, January 31st
5:30pm No Host Bar/Registration
7:00pm Dinner*

*Pleasanton Marriot
11950 Dublin Canyon Road ❖ Pleasanton*

Dinner \$65 ❖ Group Table (10) \$600

*Advanced Reservations Required by **January 17, 2009**
Your cancelled check is your receipt ❖ No Refunds*

*For information please visit www.PBSCO.org
or contact*

Malcolm Carden 510.654.7627 or mcarden@ix.netcom.com



**Presented by the
Pleasanton Blairgowrie Fergus Sister City Organization**

Please do not drink and drive—Rooms are available for \$89.00, breakfast included
Please call 925.847.6000 and ask for the Burns Supper block. Rate available until January 17, 2009.
www.MarriottPleasanton.com

Name _____ Name _____
Name _____ Name _____
Address _____ City/Zip _____
Telephone _____ Email _____
Check Amount _____ (made payable to PBFSCO)
Dinner Choice: Beef # _____ Chicken # _____ Salmon # _____ Vegetarian # _____

**Please print legibly, complete this form in full and mail with check to:
PBFSCO ❖ c/o Malcolm Carden ❖ 76 Wildwood Avenue ❖ Piedmont, CA 94610**

Officers

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Calendar of Upcoming Events:

January 23 2009	Caledonian Club Burns Supper, Sharp's Park
January 31 2009	PBFSCO Burns Supper, Pleasanton Marriott
February 7 2009	Dixon Scottish Cultural Association Burns Supper
February 21 2009	St Andrew's Society of Oakland Burns Supper, Dick's Restaurant, San Leandro

The Dixon Scottish Cultural Association will be holding their Burns Supper on the 7 February 2009. Please contact Vice Chief, Terri Anderson at 925 837 8114 to buy your tickets, which are \$40 members/guests and \$45 non-members. The event will be held in the Davis Masonic Hall, Davis, CA – for more information please go to www.scotsindixon.org.