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PRESIDENT
Henry Marquard
563-506-3476
Henry.SASQC@protonmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Lisa Lockheart
309-292-7741
lisalockheart399@gmail.com

TREASURER
Rich Stewart
309-714-0202
illini76@hotmail.com

SECRETARY
Chris Iossi
563-349-6282
lorton76@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP
Mary Gloeckner-Bouljon
309-236-5328
marygbouljon@aol.com

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE
Jill Yates
JillybeanMDY@gmail.com.
563-508-3148

Gale Hoff
563-210-1591
galehoff@gmail.com

Sandi Barnes
563-650-1935
sandbar823@yahoo.com

Judy Redlinger
773-458-3899
jredlinger@frontiernet.net

Kait Meeker
563-340-0407
kaityogill@hotmail.com

Ron Stuart
563-528-0252
stuartrl@icloud.com

Darren Low
563-579-9225
darren_low@yahoo.com

BURNS DINNER CHAIR
& PORRIDGE POT
Judy Hawthorne
563-391-9971 | 563-370-4078 cell
thornebj67@gmail.com

WEBSITE MANAGER/PUBLICITY
Lisa Lockheart
309-292-7741
lisalockheart399@gmail.com

BELTANE POTLUCK PICNIC

A small but hardy group met at Duck Creek Park on June 11th for the annual, later-than-usual, Beltane Picnic held in recognition of the Celtic season of the reawakening of nature. As she has done every year for several years, Ty Thomson provided a cake celebrating Chick and her anniversary.

CELTIC NIGHT OUT

July 16th was a perfect summer night for SAS members, guests, and a few others who saw the advertising and decided it looked like a fun way to spend an evening! Since last year's event was so successful, the Board decided to try it again and it appeared to be a good decision. The Black Hawk Pipe Band did a wonderful job of stirring up the attendees' Celtic pride with several well chosen pieces. The location of the patio at RiverFront Grille along the Rock River was a great location for their performance. Inside, after a tasty hot hors d'oeuvres meal (which included haggis, of course), the Irish band 'Blame Not the Bard' kept everyone entertained with their music and commentary. Ty Thomson did her usual excellent job of providing creative centerpieces. She did explain how she managed to come up with so many empty whisky bottles! Who knows, SAS may have established another annual tradition!

HAGGIS PREP DAY

The kitchen of the Hawthorne home was the latest location for this year's haggis preparation. An extra large batch was made so there would be enough to feed all the hungry Scots at both the Burns Dinner and Celtic Night Out.

BURNS CELEBRATION & DINNER

It seemed a bit strange to hold this celebration in May but due to Covid concerns the delayed event garnered many compliments. There were lots of the usual traditions, with a few changes made in an attempt to move things along in a timely manner. Derek Grant used his Scottish heritage accent most effectively when making his "Address to the Haggis." Many of the guests

provided input by including their responses on questionnaires made available to everyone. There were several positive comments about the father/son duo of Troid Gaelic, our Black Hawk Pipes & Drums Band, the Scottish dance lessons provided by Kait Meeker, the artwork of Bill Hawthorne and Celtic items sold by Rampant Lion, the raffle, and the dinner. There are always areas for improvement and those will be reviewed by the Board as well. The majority commented that holding the Burns Dinner at a time of year with better weather was a wise decision.

Save the date of March 4, 2023 for SAS's biggest event of the year.

2023 BURNS CELEBRATION AND DINNER

This event does require a lot of effort and doesn't magically just happen but is most successful when several different volunteers share the responsibilities. The Board is asking for any members who can help to contact a Board member (how they can be reached is found on the front of the Porridge Pot). We can discuss with you how you can help make our next Burns Dinner continue to happen.

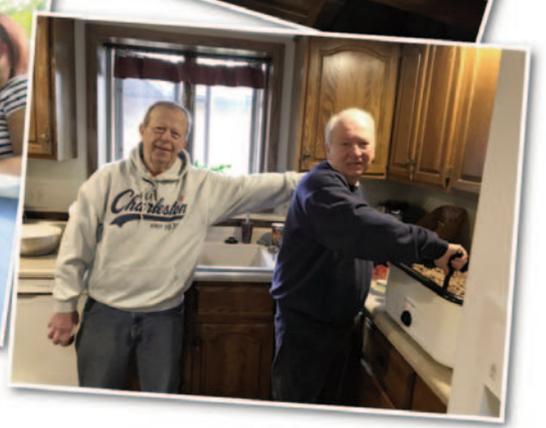
JOHN DEERE CLASSIC

SAS was again represented in the John Deere Classic Sunday morning service and closing ceremony. Mr. Piper himself, Derek Grant, led the flag bearers, Darren Low, Ron Stuart, and Jim McLachlan down the 18th hole fairway as has been the tradition for many years. Speaking of traditions - SAS member Jim Scott was not able to participate this year but he had participated every year since 1991. That's a lot of volunteer years!

SAS LOSES A LONG TIME FRIEND

Bill Lee passed away July 17th. He and his wife, Peggy, have been members for many years and were an integral part of the Blackhawk Pipes and Drums over those years. His obituary can be found at <https://www.wheelanpressly.com/obituary/Frank-Leelll>

Jim McLachlan, Ron Stuart, Derek Grant, and Darren Low representing SASQC @ JDC. Jim Scott, John Tennant and Chick Thomson started the tradition in 1991 (1 years ago) when it was held at Oakwood Country Club.





SCOTTISH AMERICAN SOCIETY

P.O. Box 132
Moline, IL 61266

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

UPCOMING EVENTS

Celtic Adventures Trip September 8-22

Samhain October 22

Christmas/St. Andrew's Party

& Annual Meeting December TBA

Robert Burns Celebration & Dinner March 4, 2023



SAMHAIN GATHERING/WHISKY TASTING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22

The Greg & Mary Bouljon home at 1550 31st Ave., Moline will again be the lovely, peaceful setting for this year's SAS version of the recognition of the Samhain season - complete with small bonfire. Fried chicken and table service will be provided and you are asked to bring a dish to share, your own beverages, and/or whisky to sample (if you so desire). The Bouljons live down a private drive off 31st Avenue (right past WQAD TV station). You may come down their Private Drive turn around and drop off your food and beverages, or anyone who might have difficulty walking to and from the parking lot, then park along 15th Street C or in the lot directly across from WQAD. In case of rain, we will move indoors. **Please RSVP to Mary by October 17th so she knows how much chicken to order: marygbouljon@aol.com or text 309-236-5328.**



SCOTLAND & IRELAND TRIP SEPTEMBER 8-22, 2022

Time is quickly approaching for the great trip Gale Hoff has been promoting for the past several months.

There is still room if you are considering visiting the 'Motherland.'. Contact Gale Hoff, trip coordinator, galehoff@gmail.com or 563-210-1591.