

THE JOURNAL

OF THE ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY OF MONTREAL

January 2009

Upcoming Events

St. Andrew's Society - Annual
Burns Nicht Supper
The University Club of Montreal
Friday, January 23rd, 2009

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78th Fraser Highlanders Bonspiel
St. Lambert Curling Club
Saturday, January 24th, 2009

*

Saint David's Society Ball
Delta Hotel
Saturday, February 28th, 2009

*

St. Patrick's Society Ball
Marriott Chateau Champlain
Friday, March 6th, 2009

*

Thistle Council Awards Dinner
Saturday, April 4th, 2009

*

Tartan Day
Monday, April 6th, 2009

*

Pub Night
McAuslan Brewery
Saturday, April 25th, 2009

*

St. Andrew's Society Annual
General Meeting & Reception
for New Members

Macdonald Stewart Foundation
Monday, May 11th, 2009

*

The Black Watch (RHR) of
Canada Cadet corps 2497 -
Annual Inspection

Black Watch Armoury
Saturday, May 30th, 2009

*

78th Fraser Highlanders Dinner
Under the Stars

The Old Fort, St. Helen's Island
June 2009

*

Montreal Highland Games
George Springate Centre, Pierrefonds
Sunday, August 2nd, 2009



Flower Girl Lily Hutchison and Page Trevor Aitken with bouquet to be presented to Lady Dalmeny at the St. Andrew's Ball.

President's Letter

Compliments of the Season and a Healthy and Happy 2009 to you all!

Since the last edition of The Journal, the Society has been extremely active. In October the Taste of Scotland's Fine Malts, organized by the Activities Committee under the Chairmanship of Campbell Oliver, was held at the Black Watch Officers' Mess. The attendance was excellent and a good time was had by all.

The last week of November ushered in the activities associated with Ball week, culminating in the Ball itself, followed by Luncheon at the Royal Montreal Curling Club and the Sunday morning service at the Church of St. Andrew and St. Paul. The Ball itself turned out to be one of the best Balls ever, in spite of the fact that the venue had to be changed to the Sheraton Centre in the final few weeks because of unresolved labour negotiations at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. Peter McAuslan, Ball Chairman, and his Committee are to be congratulated for their efforts in bringing this event to a successful conclusion.

And in December the annual Children's Christmas Party took place in the Black Watch Armoury under the able direction of Mary Johnston Cox and her team. The children (as well as the adults) were delighted with the entertainment and refreshments, and the children overjoyed by a visit from Santa with his many bags loaded with gifts.

It bears repeating that the success of all these events is due in large part to the many volunteers who put in hours of work to make them enjoyable and successful. On your behalf I extend to them all our heartfelt thanks and appreciation.

Kenneth C. Bentley - President

St. Andrew's Ball Highlights

Peter McAuslan - Ball Chairman

I'm pleased to report that the attendance at the ball held November 28th was 399, some fifty more than last year. The event was moved to the Sheraton Center near the last minute due to a labour dispute at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel. The new venue proved to be popular with ball guests who seemed to find the space somewhat more intimate than the previous location.

The goal of the Ball Committee this year was to involve our guests more in the evening's activities and try to keep them on longer into the night. One innovation was the '1945' orchestra. These talented musicians had the dance floor full all evening which added instant energy to the event.

This year all guests were asked to join in the Scottish country dancing and despite some confusion on the dance floor, many more people participated and stayed later in the evening with upwards of 200 people on the floor for Auld Lang Syne. Next year we will be able to fine tune this aspect of the ball with a demonstration dance and perhaps impromptu lessons in the lobby as well as concerted effort to get more people out to the lessons.

We had 12 debutantes with their escorts that gave the ball a younger feeling which is something we must encourage for both the future of the Ball, and the Society itself. One young man in his 20s reviewed the event as a 'barnstorming spectacle' which I took as high

praise for a society ball.

Lord and Lady Dalmeny, our guests of honour were warm, fun and energetic, and added much to the style and grace of the evening. Both Harry and Caroline were involved in events all week long which at last count totalled some 7 official activities.

True to form the Black Watch Pipes and Drums set the atmosphere and the crowd was entertained by the Montreal Highland Dancing Association and performances of the Black Watch Cadets. The address to the haggis was performed by George Bradley who was in fine form for this entertaining tradition.

The patron of this year's event was Mr. Tim Price, President of MacDougall, MacDougall and MacTier. The patron's fund raised more than twenty thousand dollars for the Society. An additional \$7500 was raised by the silent auction.



Address to the Haggis.

Guests of Honour - St. Andrew's Ball 2008 ~ Lord and Lady Dalmeny

Mary Johnston Cox - Historian St. Andrew's Society of Montreal

On Friday, November 28th, 2008, at Le Centre Sheraton Hotel, the Society was delighted to welcome Harry Ronald Neil, Lord Dalmeny and his wife Caroline, Lady Dalmeny as Guests of Honour at the St. Andrew's Ball.

Lord Dalmeny, who was born in Scotland on November 20th, 1967, is the son and heir of Neil Archibald Primrose, 7th Earl of Rosebery whose family seat is Dalmeny House, near Edinburgh. He was educated at the Dragon School, Oxford and Eton College. After reading Art History at Trinity College, Cambridge he joined Sotheby's in 1990 to work in the Country House sale department where he gained wide experience in organising auctions of all types and sizes. In 2000, he became Director of Sotheby's and from 2003-2007 was Chairman of Sotheby's Olympia. He also took on responsibility for the single-owner sales department in 2006 and became Deputy Chairman, Sotheby's UK in 2007. Lord Dalmeny is Sotheby's premier Charity auctioneer, wielding the gavel at events which have raised over thirty million pounds for good causes in the last year and for the last four years he has been the auctioneer at the annual ARK (Absolute Return for Kids) dinner which in 2007 made a record twenty six million pounds. He is also Deputy Lord Lieutenant for Midlothian and a member of the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland, the Royal Company of Archers. Relaxation for Lord

Dalmeny is playing bridge and riding one of the most challenging of winter sports – the unique Cresta Run at St. Moritz, Switzerland.

Caroline Daghish and Lord Dalmeny were married in 1994 and are the parents of five children – their daughter, Marina (5 years), their triplet girls, Lavinia, Delphi, Celeste (4 years) and their son, 3-year-old Caspian. They all live in both central London and Midlothian, Scotland. Lady Dalmeny was educated at John F. Kennedy School, Hemel Hempstead in Hertfordshire. During 1987 to 1988, she was Research Assistant to Robert Jones, MP and was also an artist in the design studio at Saatchi and Saatchi. In 1991, after graduating from University College London (BA Hons 2: 1 English Literature), she became organiser of the Conservative Political Centre in the Conservative Research Department and was later Westminster Policy Adviser to the Secretary of State for Defence. She then became Assistant to Lord Strathclyde, Leader of the Opposition, House of Lords and latterly, during the year 1999, she accepted the position of Editor at Large, Harpers and Queen. A former Trustee of the War Memorials Trust, Lady Dalmeny is also Appeal Ambassador and a member of the steering committee of The Black Watch Heritage Appeal. She is on fundraising committees for the Evelina Children's Hospital (at Guy's and St. Thomas') and also the Scottish National Ballet. Her other interests include pipe music, cooking, salmon fishing, stalking and shooting.

The family name of the Earls of Rosebery is Primrose; the earliest known member of the family being Henry Primrose who was born in 1490. During the reign of James VI and 1st, his grandson, James became Clerk to the Privy Council. In time, this position was inherited by James' son, Archibald who was created a Baronet of Nova Scotia in 1651 by Charles II and after the Restoration was granted a knighthood. In 1700, his youngest son, also Archibald, was raised to the peerage as Viscount Rosebery and three years later was created the 1st Earl of Rosebery during the reign of Queen Anne.

Later, during the late 19th century and in the reign of Queen Victoria, Archibald Philip Primrose, 5th Earl of Rosebery, following an active career in politics, became Prime Minister



St. Andrew's Ball - Lord and Lady Dalmeny

and First Lord of the Treasury in 1894. Prior to his appointment, he had constantly lobbied for administrative changes whereby Scotland's affairs would be better recognized. Later, after being assigned to the Home Office – specifically responsible for Scottish Affairs, the Scottish Office was created. In 1878, he married Hannah de Rothschild, daughter and heiress of Baron Meyer de Rothschild. A magnificent portrait of the Countess of Rosebery can be seen in Dalmeny House – also there, is the world-renowned Rosebery and Rothschild collections. Well known as a politician, writer, historian, collector and eloquent orator, Lord Rosebery received many honours during his lifetime. He was also famed as a horse breeder and owner. In his many years of ownership, his primrose and rose colours won every "Classic" including three Derby wins – the first and most popular being won by his horse Ladas in 1894 when he was Prime Minister.

Lord Dalmeny's grandfather, Albert Edward Harry Meyer Archibald, 6th Earl of Rosebery, known as Harry, was the doyen of British Turf as racehorse owner and breeder. He eventually won more than seven hundred races. In 1946, he was appointed Chairman of the newly-formed Scottish Tourist Board. He and his wife, Eva were instrumental in the City of Edinburgh being chosen as the site for the famous International Festival. This was achieved by the Countess of Rosebery, an accomplished amateur pianist, influencing the distinguished group of music and drama producers involved and by Harry, 6th Earl of Rosebery providing the required funding from his Derby prize money.

St. Andrew's Ball 2008 - Sponsors, Patrons and Donors

Many thanks to all those listed below:

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MacDougall, MacDougall & MacTier ; Mrs. Mary Leslie-Aitken & Mr. Ian Aitken; Mrs. Jean & Dr. Kenneth C. Bentley; Mr. Andrew de Courcy-Ireland; Mrs. Janyth & Mr. John A. Craig; Mr. John Hart; Mrs. Neil B. Ivory; Mr. Pierre LaPointe; Mrs. Ellen Bounsall McAuslan & Mr. Peter McAuslan; Mr. Malcolm E. McLeod & Mrs. Joan Bond Thornton-McLeod; Mr. M. Bruce McNiven & Mrs. Marie Sénécal Tremblay McNiven; M. François Sénécal-Tremblay; Mrs. Helgi & Mr. Ian Soutar; Mr. & Mrs. Guthrie J. Stewart; The R. Howard Webster Foundation

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A Taste of Scotland

J. Cassar

The amazing evening, October 17th, 2008, at the Officers Mess of the Black Watch Armoury was filled with great food and a tremendous variety of whisky. The hall was to the brim: enthusiasts and newbies alike, all trying to discover that exact hidden flavour in each bottle.

The event was an incredible success. Kudos to those who organized the event, but to the sponsors who provided a bottle for the tasting:

- Hurley's Irish Pub – 12yr Poit Dhubh
- The Black Watch (Lt. Col. Mackay) – 12yr Old Pultney
- Fraser Highlanders (Lt. Col. B. D. Bolton) – 15yr Glenkinchie
- Mr. Ian Aitken – 17yr Glengoyne
- Mr. Kenneth Blackburn – 18yr Highland Park
- Mr. Tom Dwyner – 18yr Bowmore
- Mr. Kirk Johnstone – 16yr Aberlour
- Mr. Peter McAuslan – Cask strength MacAllan
- Mr. Malcolm McLeod – 12yr anCnoc
- Mr. Bruce McNiven – 18yr Chivas Regal
- Mr. Mike McMurray – 10yr Ardbeg
- Mr. Stein Trodd Helle – 12yr The Glenlivet

For those who missed it, you should make every attempt next year to join in. And if whisky

Congratulations to Okill Stuart

Okill Stuart has recently been inducted into the St. Lambert Sports Hall of Fame in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of St. Lambert's sports community. More specifically, this was for his contribution to the sport of curling, where he played a part in the founding of the St. Lambert Curling Club, and not, in his own words, for his ability in throwing a rock!

isn't "your thing" there are many other options available.

Anyone who could spend a few hours of their time and would like to volunteer to help with this event next year, please contact Campbell Oliver at 514 483 1803.



A wee taste of Scotland!

Cedars Cancer Institute - Ride with Lance September 12th, 2008

Ian Aitken

Past President Ian Aitken participated in a fundraising event this past fall and circulated the following summary of the event to those who had contributed to the cause.

The Ride with Lance event organized by the Cedars Cancer Institute this past Friday was a tremendous success. Not only were we able to raise more than one million dollars to fund the fight against Cancer, but we were also able to hear Lance Armstrong speak about the importance of the cause and how his return to professional cycling would provide a global platform to help educate and motivate others to intensify the fight against the many forms of cancer that kill more than eight million people every year. The ride was certainly an important part of the event, but simply meeting the man and spending a day with a group of people who are all committed to the cause was inspirational.

Cycling with someone who has won the Tour de France seven times (nobody else in

the history of the Tour has won more than five times), and who earlier in the week announced that he would be coming out of retirement to try and win an eighth time, was a truly wonderful experience that the thirty four riders will not soon forget. Not only is he one of the most accomplished cyclists ever, he has become a significant force in the fight against cancer and his passion for the cause was very evident.

The ride started after brunch and we must have made quite an impression as we rode around the Laurentians. We were escorted by a cavalcade of police motorcycles who, with lights flashing and sirens wailing, secured both sides of the road. A helicopter hovered overhead taking pictures of the peloton and cameramen on the backs of motorcycles and in support vehicles also captured our every move. The ride lasted for three hours and each of us had several opportunities to cycle next to Lance. This was a daunting prospect as he has a somewhat complex and super human reputation, but when the time came to ride next to him he was a pleasure to speak with and a joy to behold.

The picturesque route started at the base of Mount Tremblant, headed west and then south to Arundle before returning to the starting point. Part of the route had been recently paved, but most of it was an embarrassment. The organizers had spray painted many of the hazardous cracks and potholes and at times it appeared that the entire road was covered with orange paint. There was a close call when Lance hit a pot hole while helping a cyclist put something in the back pocket of her jersey. He joked that his



The Police escorts pose with Lance at Hotel Quintessence

comeback had almost been cut short by a fall before it had really begun.

The group that had come together to cycle with Lance included young and old, former Olympic cyclists and professional athletes as well as recent converts to the sport. The common interest that united us all was a desire to raise funds for cancer care and research. This cause was particularly heartfelt for some of the participants who were cancer patients, cancer survivors or Doctors who are engaged on a daily basis in the fight against what Lance calls a "bastard" of a disease. Some participants were able to raise the required funds relatively easily, while other received literally hundreds of small donations. The top five fundraisers were seated with Lance at dinner, and thanks to the very generous support of many of my friends, I was fortunate to be amongst that group.

During the ride, several of the stronger cyclists tried to pick up the pace, but Lance kept the peloton together. Although I am sure that this was the right approach, I would have loved the opportunity to see him accelerate to full speed as his awesome power would have been a humbling sight. The weather did not exactly cooperate as it was cold and raining for the duration of the event, but despite the fact that we were soaking wet, our spirits were not dampened. Whether it was because of the weather or the cyclist who fell, the route was shortened to roughly 80 kilometres and we returned to the hotel with plenty of time to prepare for dinner.

After taking a long hot bath and sitting in the hot tub looking out over the lake we gathered for dinner at the Quintessence Hotel where we heard from Dr. Arthur Porter, Director General and Chief Executive Officer of the McGill University Health Centre, John Rae, Chair of the Best Care for Life campaign, Jeff Shamie,

Executive Director of the Cedars Cancer Institute and of course Lance Armstrong. Most of the questions and the focus of Lance's answers were cancer related. He believes that his return to professional cycling will give him and his foundation the global profile that is required to make a difference in the fight against cancer. He was asked about his interest in running for political office and although he said he had much to learn about issues other than cycling and cancer, I would not be surprised to see him

as the Governor of Texas at some point. He said that if he moved to Quebec and ran for political office, he would focus on one issue and one issue only and that would be the terrible state of our roads – which he described as the worst that he has ever seen.

Although considered by some to be the alpha bachelor

(he has dated Sheryl Crow and Kate Hudson amongst others) there were no questions regarding his personal life. There were also no questions regarding the allegations of doping which have swirled around him. I believe that the audience was so grateful for the role that he has played in the fight against cancer that they simply did not want to go there.

With regards to cycling, he said that he had watched the slower times in the recent Tour de France with interest and that he was returning to win. He acknowledged that with his 37th birthday just around the corner, he may have slowed ever so slightly, but he seemed highly confident that his accumulated knowledge and previous margin of victory would put him in an excellent position. He provided no insight into what team he would race for, but his manager indicated that there were several teams very interested in having him as the lead rider and that the Tour would welcome him back.



It's not about the bike

Given that he already has such a high profile (Forbes ranked him #15 in 2005 and a Google search of his name returns 6.6 million hits), I believe that his return to professional cycling is motivated by a desire to prove the sceptics wrong and show that he can win what is considered to be one of the toughest sporting events without any performance enhancing drugs. Although he has never tested positive, the more intrusive testing regimens now in place would go a long way towards proving that it was a combination of physical strength and determination that allowed him to dominate the sport and that EPO and other performance enhancing substances had nothing to do with it. When asked whether he had any particular genetic advantage that could explain his success, he made reference to a much larger

than normal aorta that connects his heart to his lower body.

As we had been told that Lance would sign one, and only one, souvenir for each of the cyclists, I gave the matter some thought. The most common items presented for signature were cycling jerseys and copies of his book. I asked him to sign a large bottle of champagne that I told him I would open when he next won the Tour de France. He signed it with the message "Hoping for 8!".

After dinner we celebrated the completion of a wonderful day at the Petit Caribou. Lance did not join us, as the end of the event for us simply marked the beginning of the next event for him. Early Saturday morning he was flown to Montreal by helicopter so that he could speak to the 800 participants of the Cedars Cancer Institute

Scottish and Celtic Culture Meetup

September this year saw the start of a new group, the Montreal Scottish and Celtic Culture Meetup Group (<http://www.meetup.com/celticculture-16/>). The group was started with a couple of aims in mind. First off, to get to meet new people, get together and have fun, but also to raise awareness of the St. Andrew's Society, and their events.

The monthly get-togethers have all been organized in local hostelrys, usually with a Scots or Celtic theme, where members can get together, have a bite to eat, a drink or two, and a blether. We also put out information on events that may interest our members. These range from St. Andrews Society events, like the St. Andrews Ball and the Whisky tasting, to talks run by the Atwater Library and hopefully in the summer, the local Highland Games.



Members of the meetup group get together in Hurleys Bar.

So far we have 30 members on the site, but the average meet has about 10 attendees. These members have come to us through a variety of channels, from word of mouth, through the Society itself, through the Meetup website, and through other advertising done by myself and the other members on Facebook, and Craigslist and other social networking sites.

What is Meetup? Meetup is an online network of local groups. Meetup makes it easy for anyone to organize a local group or find one of the

thousands already meeting up face-to-face. If there's something your interested in, this one of the best ways to find out about others in your area with the same or similar interests. Go have a look; you might be surprised what you find.

For more information, on our meetup, or on other meetups that may interest you, head along to www.meetup.com. You can also get in touch with me through the site, or at this address, d.n.robertson@gmail.com. Please don't hesitate to contact me for more information. By far the best way to see what this is all about is to sign up yourself and have a look, or even better, come along to our next meetup on the 13th of January. Also, if you think there's a local event that may be of interest to others, this is one of the best ways to get the information out to the people who want to know. By Derek Robertson

dragon boat race on the Lachine Canal before flying to New York city for a Vanity Fair photo shoot and then to Snowmass Colorado where he would be participating in a twelve hour mountain bike relay race on Sunday. In the next few weeks he will have to prepare for his keynote speech at the Clinton Global Initiative meeting in New York, decide which team he will race for, raise some more money for his Foundation (he has already raised over \$270 million and sold more than 65 million of the yellow LiveStrong bracelets) and let's not forget the countless hours that he will spend on his bike in the U.S. and Europe training and racing.

Lance has been tremendously successful because of his natural abilities and his hard work, but he has become a superstar athlete and champion in the fight against cancer because he faced his own mortality and found a cause greater than himself. I am very glad that Lance Armstrong came to Montreal and I wish him all the best as he pursues his mission in life.

"The Magic Highlander" Celebrates His 40th Anniversary

N. Turner

Montreal-born Nemo Turner will be celebrating 40 years as a stage magician and illusionist in the year 2009.

He is known as "The Magic Highlander" as he is one of the few magicians in the world that performs wearing the kilt.

In 1976, he was honoured as the "Official Olympic Magician for the Summer Games" and in 1978 won the CBC-TV Merit Award as a top magician in Canada. He had his own Magic Concert tour of Las Vegas, Reno and Lake Tahoe.

Turner is an Officer in the 78th Fraser Highlanders, where he was also made their "Official Town Crier."

Over the years, he has done many benefit magic shows for his Regiment, as well as the annual Children's Christmas Party of the St. Andrew's Society.

Turner also works with his partner, a three pound Polish

dwarf rabbit called Melvin. He is the only hare in the world that does card tricks ("sleight-of-paw"), and has his own bank account, credit card, passport, website, and custom-made perfume ("18 Carrots").

The Fraser Highlanders made Melvin Rabbit their "Official Mascot" and now he is called the "Hopping Highlander."

Turner was decorated by the Canadian Government for his volunteerism with the Order of St. John, Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal and Canada 125 Medal. He also received eight decorations from the Vatican, Portugal, Japan, Austria and Rwanda for his charitable work.

He was made an "Honorary Colonel" by the Governors of Kentucky, Alabama and New Mexico for his contribution to society.

Turner says his goal for his 40th Anniversary is learn the "electronic" bagpipes, which are so small that he can hide them up his sleeve. What else would you expect from a professional magician?

The public can contact Nemo Turner through his official website at www.SocietyMagic.com.

New Members

The Society is very pleased to report that Mrs. Jean Bentley, annual member since 1990 and Mr. Guthrie J. Stewart, annual member since 2004, have now transferred to life membership.

We encourage all current members and associate members to let their friends know about the St. Andrew's Society. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining or becoming involved, contact the Society's Offices.

Flowers of the Forest

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of John A. A. Swift, BA, BCL, a life member since 1973, who passed away on 27th December, 2008.

FOUND: At The Black Watch Officers' Mess, after the Children's Christmas Party, one pair of black suede gloves and also one set of photographs of a young boy. Please contact the Society's Office.



Col. Nemo Turner with Mr. Clinton in Montreal at a business conference at Palais des Congres.

Scottish Country Dancing Practices

We had nine sets and everyone seemed to have fun and enjoyed learning the dances. We also had twelve debutantes and escorts, who came every week, and learned the Debutants Waltz. By the ball evening everyone looked lovely and had a great time. So, I think we can safely say practices and ball were a success. By Mary Dreghorn



This Years Debutantes

A.Navin

Katrina Naomi Anderson is currently studying software engineering at Concordia University. Miss Anderson works part time at her local library and in her spare time can be found reading, playing soccer or spending time with family and friends. Katrina hopes to pursue a career in the aerospace industry.

Catherine Brenna Baggs is currently in her final year of an Honours degree in English Literature

and Women's Studies at McGill University. She also works part-time as an English teaching assistant at École Père-Marquette in Rosemont. Brenna is the president of the McGill women's chamber choir Simply Sweetly, and has been Highland dancing for 10 years. This past summer she represented Québec in the National Championships in Victoria, B.C., and spent August dancing in the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. She loves cooking, reading, singing, and folk music.

Victoria Kelly Reid-Burke is sixteen years of age and in her final year of the Talented and Gifted program at Centennial Regional High School. Miss Reid-Burke spends her time volunteering at the Charles Lemoyne Hospital in Greenfield Park and singing in the South Shore Children's Chorus. Victoria is an active member of multiple school clubs and activities and is looking forward to graduation and the new adventures that are awaiting her.

Corinne Kathleen Lalonde is an undergraduate student at Concordia University specializing in Psychology. Corinne works part-time as a lead instructor at The Little Gym, a center designed to develop motor skills for young children. Miss Lalonde teaches classical ballet, tap and gymnastics. In her spare time, Corinne likes to listen to music; walk, bike and play with her cat Felix. Corinne is an avid reader and enjoys creative writing, good food and spending time with her family and friends.

Sarah Evelyn Lecomte is currently enrolled in the education teaching program at Champlain College. Miss Lecomte is a great fan of the arts.

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY MONTREAL 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Thomas A. Tompkins - Chair, Montreal RSCDS

On Saturday, October 25th, 2008, the Montreal branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society held a gala to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Branch's founding. We were joined on this joyous occasion by honoured guests, Dr. Kenneth Bentley and his wife, Jean from the St. Andrew's Society.

Nearly 120 participants filled the room, beautifully decorated by the Gala organizing committee. After an excellent dinner and even better table conversation, there were speeches, congratulations and a brief slide show of the history of the branch (more photos were on display elsewhere in the room). The highlight of this part of the evening was the presentation by Dr. Bentley, President of the St. Andrew's Society of an extremely generous \$1,000 cheque to be used for teaching purposes. This gift from the Society was accepted on behalf of the RSCDS Montreal by teachers' representative, Norah Link and branch treasurer, Richard South.

The Grand March was then announced and piper Jordie Anderson piped us all onto the dance floor, where Fred Moyes took over with his rousing accordion music. While there was barely room to cast off between sets, no one seemed to mind. The evening was topped off by the arrival of an anniversary cake and the opening of the dessert table.

Sarah has taken dance classes in modern, ballet and Jazz and has studied Highland dancing for 9 years. Miss Lecomte has also participated in a choir and toured performing musical theatre. Sarah's hobbies include soccer and painting on canvas. In her spare time, Sarah enjoys dancing, painting, and traveling.

Alexandra Anne MacKenzie is currently in her final semester of Social Science at College Eduard Montpetit. Alexandra is interested in pursuing studies within psychology with a focus on specialized education. Miss MacKenzie would like to teach disabled children. Prior to beginning her studies at the University du Quebec à Montreal next September, Alexandra plans to tour Europe, where she is looking forward to learning more about the history and culture of the different regions. In her spare time, Miss MacKenzie works part time at Caisses Desjardins. Alexandra's interests include swimming, reading and spending time with family and friends.

Alexandra Tremblay-McLean currently attends Centennial Regional High School in the Talented and Gifted program. In her spare time, Miss Tremblay-McLean is a member of the South Shore Children's Chorus as well as a participant in her school play. Next year she plans to pursue her D.E.C in Health Sciences at Marianopolis College.

Emily Katelyn Morgan is currently in grade 11 at the Trafalgar School for Girls where she is senior editor of the yearbook and plays first flute in the school band. Emily was recently awarded the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and is working towards earning Gold this coming year. Miss Morgan sings soprano with the South Shore Children's Chorus, enjoys playing basketball and travelling, and volunteers with the SPCA Monteregie. Emily plans to study Health Sciences at CEGEP in the fall.

Ellen Laura Nessel is twenty-one years old and currently in her final year of undergraduate studies in psychology and sociology at McGill University. Ellen hopes to pursue a career in forensic psychology or criminology. A committed volunteer, upon graduation Ellen plans to donate her time to Habitat for Humanity in Africa. Her interests include reading, writing and acting. She is also an avid downhill skier.

Kirsten Anne Nessel is nineteen years old and currently in her second year at McGill University, majoring in biochemistry. Once finished her undergraduate degree, Miss Nessel plans to go on to study medicine. Kirsten has been working at Viomax, a day camp for physically disabled children, for three years, and was the camp coordinator this past summer. In her spare time Miss Nessel enjoys reading, jogging and playing the violin.

Hilary Anne Punnett is originally from Victoria, BC, and is currently in the last year of her undergraduate in Music, majoring in organ performance, at McGill. Hilary is the organ scholar at Christ Church Cathedral here in Montreal. Miss Punnett is also an active Highland dancer, and is the current president of the Scottish Highland Dance Society of McGill. Hilary has enjoyed dancing competitively and socially for 18 years, and was very excited to dance at the 2008 Edinburgh Military Tattoo. Hilary enjoys reading, kayaking and singing, and intends to pursue a career as an organist.

Melissa Alba Whitehall is currently studying Math and Science at the Montreal High School Adult Center while working along side her mother at a transport company for children with special needs. Melissa has been highland dancing since the age of 5, and currently studies two days a week at the Cameron School of Dance. In her spare time Melissa enjoys travel,

The Thistle Amongst the Lilies --- A New Collection of Bagpipe Music

Greetings!

A collection of pipe music has been in the making, spearheaded by myself, a long-time member of the Black Watch (RHR) of Canada Pipes & Drums, and features several composers from the Montreal region. It is truly the first such collection to be published in Quebec, and contains tunes of all styles, of various levels of difficulty. I have been composing tunes since the early 90s, and this 40 tune collection is my first kick at the can so to speak.

Please have a look at the link below for more information, and if you are interested in procuring a copy, please feel free to contact me, by e-mail. (There is of course a discount for military pipers...)

<http://www.pipermacbear.com/meirleach.htm>

Jeff McCarthy



and spending time with friends and family. Melissa's hobbies include dance, reading, and music. Upon graduating Melissa plans to attend Dawson College in the field of Child Studies. Miss Whitehall hopes to become a counsellor for families in need of support and guidance.

This Years Escorts

A.Navin

Tomás Baldassarre is currently studying Anatomy and Cell Biology at McGill University, and hopes to one day become a paediatrician. In his spare time, Mr. Baldassarre works as a camp counsellor and lifeguard for children with physical disabilities, and as a ski instructor during the winter.

Lee William Lennox Deschambault, 21, is enrolled in his fourth year at McGill University. Currently, Lee is studying English literature and political science. Lee's interests vary quite widely from sports to cooking, computers to novels. Mr. Deschambault is very happy to be attending his first St. Andrew's ball and the opportunity to get to know his Lennox side a little better.

Donald Gordon Hunt is twenty three, and is currently studying for a Master's of Music degree at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University. Mr. Hunt is majoring in organ performance, and is also the assistant organist at Christ Church Cathedral. Donald's hobbies include cooking, cycling, and skiing. Next year Donald hopes to move to the United Kingdom to further his studies as an organist.

Derek Lorne Kozak is 20 years old and attends McGill University where he is in his second year in the department of Civil Engineering and Applied Mechanics. In addition to studying, he is heavily involved in the Kirkland Northwest Scouting community where he is a Scout leader, the President of their Rover Crew which is one of the largest in Quebec, and member of a scouting honour society, the Knights of Tamara. Derek enjoys baseball immensely and loves to play it whenever he can. In the future Derek hopes to use his knowledge of Civil Engineering to help improve his hometown of Kirkland as well as the Tamaracouta Scout Reserve.

Boris Krasikov was born in Latvia Riga on October 27th 1983. He moved to Israel at the age of eight, and then to Montreal 11 years ago. As a result of his travel around the globe Boris is functional in four languages; English, French, Hebrew and Russian. Boris studies Chemical Engineering at McGill University and plans to pursue a career in either the petrochemical or pulp and paper industry. In September 2002 Boris began his military career with the Black Watch, where he remained for four years. Presently, Boris is a commissioned Officer in the Canadian Grenadier Guard. During his spare time, Lt. Krasikov enjoys socializing with his friends, and spending time at his family's cottage. Boris also hopes to obtain a private pilot license for recreational purposes.

Cluny Iain Mackenzie-MacPherson was born in Montreal, but was raised from age 4 in Vancouver BC. Cluny has lived in Montreal for the last 5 years and is currently a student at Concordia University. Having already completed the liberal arts college's Western Culture and Society major he is completing a major in Political Science. Cluny serves as VP finance on the student board of the liberal Arts Society at Concordia, and is looking forward to completing his undergrad. While attending school, Cluny works at the Priory Elementary School in Westmount, coordinating the after school program. Cluny is an avid soccer

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player, and enjoys the fitness side of the game as well as the camaraderie. Cluny has traveled to Scotland twice, first to Skibo Castle in Inverness while working as an Au Pair during his gap year, and then to Edinburgh on a backpacking tour of Europe.

Alexander Shawn Normandin is currently in grade 11 at Centennial High School where he is studying sciences. Upon graduation, Alexander plans to begin studies for a degree in Civil Engineering. Alexander is kept busy with a part time job, sports and volunteering with Scouts Canada. Alexander also plays on the school volleyball team, plays guitar and enjoys all genres of music.

Benoit Thomas Poirier At 19 years of age, Benoit stands as a reasonably well-traveled fellow. Having visited over 9 European countries, he takes great joy in having gotten those opportunities. A student in the International Baccalaureate of Science program at Vanier, he hopes to further his appreciation of the world at large and his place in it. Benoit's hobbies include hockey and tennis. Mr. Poirier aspires to a career as a teacher.

Dominic Gregory Charley-Roy is sixteen years of age and will be graduating from the Talented and Gifted program at Centennial Regional High School this year. Dominic enjoys hockey, art and music. An avid technology enthusiast, Dominic hopes to study computer technology at Dawson College next year.

Nicolas Santo is currently a student at McGill University completing a Bachelor of Arts, with a major in Political Science. Upon completion, Nicolas wishes to continue into graduate studies with a focus in International Relations. Nicolas would one day like to work for Foreign Affairs Canada. In his spare time, Nicolas is an avid rugby player. He started playing at Champlain College where he captained the Cavaliers and was named most valuable player for all three years that he played and was named to the Cégep All-Star team in 2006 and 2007. Nicolas has also played in the Senior Québec League since 2006 with the Saint-Lambert Locks. In the spring of 2008, Nicolas played for the Québec under-20 team and also played with the senior team on their spring tour in France. Nicolas was a part of the Royal Canadian Army Cadets from 2002-2006 with the Centennial Cadet Corps. He travelled to British Columbia in 2004; he completed the Army Basic Parachutist Course in 2005 and was the Sergeant Major of the

Connaught Cadet Camp in the summer of 2006. In the summer of 2007, Nicolas was a private in the Olde 78th Fraser Highlanders at the Stewart Museum on Ste-Helen's Island. He was named best Highland dancer for that year. Nicolas joined the Canadian Grenadier Guards in February of 2008. He has completed his first two phases of training and was promoted to the rank of Ensign on the 9th of November of this year. Nicolas currently holds the position of Assistant to the Operations Officer for the CGG.

Philip Alexander Soares is currently attending Centennial Regional High school in Greenfield Park. Philip is involved in extra curricular activities such as volleyball and the follies, a talent show where he is playing piano and guitar. Philip is also hoping to qualify for the legions, which is a national competition for pole vaulting. Next year Mr. Soares plans to attend Dawson College where he will pursue a degree in engineering.

Nicolas Phillippe Warlop is twenty years old and currently in his second year of electrical engineering at McGill University. Upon completing his degree, Nicolas hopes to work abroad. Mr. Warlop's interests include skiing, basketball, and listening to music. Nicolas is also an amateur magician.

Children's Christmas Party December 14th, 2008

Mary Johnston Cox - Co-ordinator Children's Christmas Party

By your kindness and generosity, all of you who gave so generously in so many ways, as well as



volunteering your time and effort, the annual Children's Christmas Party was a delightful and happy day for over fifty children. While they waited in anticipation for the arrival of our special bagpipe-playing Santa Claus, everyone was excellently entertained by members of the Cadet Pipes & Drums Band: Robbie Kerr, Stephan Lawson, Joseph Boran, Cameron MacFarlane and Highland Dancer, Jennifer Donaldson who, especially for the occasion, was dressed in a clown's outfit and danced beautifully. The children, as well as the adults, were later fascinated by the well known Nemo's magical performance and also the appearance of his friend, Melvin the Rabbit.

As Co-ordinator of the event, I would like to thank each and every one of you for helping to make it a wonderful day for the children and also, once again, at no cost to the Society. May the joy and happiness you helped to bring to all the children be with you and yours in 2009 and always.

The Atwater Library Celebrates 180 Years of Serving Montrealers

Lynn Verge

The Atwater Library and Computer Centre (ALCC) has now been serving Montrealers for 180 years and is marking the milestone anniversary in a number of ways. Its gala benefit cocktail party, held on November 5th, was a focal point of anniversary celebrations. Phyllis Lambert was the guest of honour and paid tribute to the organization's outstanding record and to the fine architectural qualities of the building.

On November 21st, 1828, the organization was founded with the name Montreal Mechanics' Institution with the objective "to instruct the

members in the principles of the arts and in the various branches of science and useful knowledge". Louis Gugy was President, with John Molson, Louis-Joseph Papineau, Henry Esson, and Horatio Gates as Vice Presidents. The organization's operating names have changed but the mission remains promoting learning and building community.

The international movement of mechanics' institutes originated in Scotland at the beginning of the 19th century. A



ALCC Atwater Building circa 1920

large segment of the male working population, including tradesmen, artisans, and professionals, then identified themselves as "mechanics". This movement spread worldwide as a source of education apart from the control of church and state, and as an important precursor to modern adult education.

In the 19th and early 20th centuries, there were mechanics' institutes in most Quebec and Canadian towns. As the social welfare state developed, many were absorbed into publicly-funded libraries and technical schools. The ALCC is the only Canadian mechanics' institute still operating independently.

In 2005 the Government of Canada declared the ALCC building a National Historic Site, in part to acknowledge the organization's lengthy record of community service and also to recognize the beautiful architecture of the building.

Here are other ways the ALCC is marking the 180th anniversary:

- Its website history section has been greatly improved with the addition of the early hand-written minutes of the organization, from 1828 to 1861. The minutes for the rest of the 19th century will be posted soon. This is an important resource for people doing historical research.
- Museum-type history panels with text in English and French as well as photos have been posted on either side of the Atwater entrance to the main lobby.



READING ROOM

Library Reading Room circa 1930s

- The Westmount Independent newspaper has publishing a series of articles by Susan McGuire about the early years of the organization and the leading members.

People who've done the work to document and publicize the organization's history include:

- Ralph Mackay, former employee, who organized and catalogued the archives;
- Susan McGuire, former Board member and past Executive Director, who was the driving force behind getting the National Historic Site designation and is now the organization's volunteer historian;
- Rob Michel, archivist, who's generously given advice;
- Jen Hoyer, McGill Library and Information Studies Masters student, who coordinated an archives project during the summer with funding from Canadian Heritage;
- Suzanne Morin, museologist and archivist with a wealth of experience, who recently started volunteering; and
- Gerry and Anne Matthews, the owners of Micromatt, who've digitized the 19th century archives.

History: Atwater Library Original Leadership¹

Susan McGuire

Atwater Library and Computer Centre, founded as the Montreal Mechanics' Institution in 1828, celebrates its 180th anniversary this year. Although people of all backgrounds were involved, many of the founders of the MMI were from Scotland and were likely also members of the St. Andrew's Society of Montreal.

Atwater Library today houses a Scottish collection of books developed with funding from the St. Andrew's Society.

The view of education that predominated in Anglican-dominated, early 19th century England looked with disfavour on educating the working classes. Anglican leaders believed national prosperity depended on the workingman's hard work, deference, sobriety, and religious virtue.

The more liberal Scots began to think that having workers knowledgeable in science and technology would lead to greater prosperity for everyone. Thus it was in Scotland that the mechanics' institute movement began in the late 18th century. Later, in 1823, under George Birkbeck, MD, a Mechanics' Institution was

established in London, and its concepts spread worldwide.

The purpose of a mechanics' institute was to give evening instruction in technical subjects and in the arts to working adults, in a setting free of religious and political affiliations. Leaders in the community would provide initial direction and funding, but the institutes would be run from among the members who were master craftsmen and employers of labour. The by-laws were set up to achieve this purpose. The MMI (Montreal Mechanics' Institution) constitution mirrored that of the London institution, and the first executive was a cross-section of leading Montreal residents:

President was *Louis Gugy*, sheriff of Montreal, aged 58. Swiss-born of military origins, his family were Anglicans in Trois-Rivières, but he was a member of Rev. Esson's church.

Vice-presidents were:

1. *Louis-Joseph Papineau*, Canadian-born lawyer and politician, aged 42. He was a founder in 1822 of the British & Canadian School, a free or low-fee and non-sectarian school for poor working-class children, both French and English-speaking.

2. *Horatio Gates*, American-born Presbyterian merchant in foodstuffs and potash, aged 41. A founder of Bank of Montreal in 1817, he also was on the board of the British & Canadian School, and was a member of Rev. Esson's church.

3. *Rev. Henry Esson*, Scottish-born pastor of St. Gabriel's Presbyterian church, teacher and owner of a school, aged 35. In 1844, he moved on to teach philosophy, literature at history at what became Knox College of the University of Toronto.

4. *John Molson*, English-born industrialist, aged 65. Though a Unitarian by instinct, he was a member of Rev. Esson's church. (The Anglican church did not appeal to him, even though he had been married in it.)

Secretary was *P. H. Ogilvy*, a teacher in Rev. Esson's school. **Treasurer** was William Shand, a cabinetmaker and builder.

The initiator of the Montreal Mechanics' Institution in 1828 was Rev. Henry Esson, one of Montreal's intellectual leaders. Rev. Esson was also one of the founders of Montreal's Natural History Society, and was chaplain of the St. Andrew's Society from 1835 to 1844.

¹ Adapted from an article in the *Westmount Independent*, August 19-20 and 26-27, 2008

Controversial in some respects, he was tried for some social improprieties and cleared by the courts. He was a staunch defender of Presbyterian principles in Montreal, and was instrumental in having the Clergy Reserves abolished and making McGill College a non-denominational institution. He was a founder of the High School of Montreal.

Montreal's development into an industrial and manufacturing metropolis was spearheaded by men who belonged to the Montreal Mechanics' Institution in 1828-35, and to the Mechanics' Institute of Montreal after 1840. They included men of different skills in the building and shipping trades, as well as those who were architects, lawyers, doctors, bankers, grain merchants and retail merchants. These are some of them:

Edward Maxwell joined MMI in 1829, the year he came from Scotland, and was elected to the Managing Committee in 1832. In the early 1850s, along with William Hutchison, he made preliminary design plans for the Mechanics Hall, and had the £1384 carpentry contract for the Hall built in 1854. He was the father of specialty woods merchant E. J. Maxwell who was also a member of MIM, and grandfather of noted Montreal architects Edward and William Maxwell.

Aaron Phillip Hart, the fourth lawyer in the extended Hart and Judah families to be admitted to the Bar in Canada, gave lectures at the MMI in 1829, left in a huff, and was a member again in 1840. He raised a Loyalist militia regiment during the 1837-38 rebellions, then defended the Patriotes in the 1838-39 trials. He owned the horse that won the first running of the Queen's Plate in Toronto.

François-Antoine Laroque, born in L'Assomption, educated at Collège de Montréal and in the U.S., became a furtrader and explorer at age 17. He served in Chasseurs Canadiens in the War of 1812 and was imprisoned by the Americans in Cincinnati for six months. Upon retiring from the fur trade in 1815, he became involved in many aspects of commercial life in Montreal. He elected Mechanics' Institution

vice-president in 1830. His son François-Alfred-Chartier Laroque was a founder of the Montreal City & District Savings Bank, and became an MIM life member in 1854.

John Ostell joined the Mechanics' Institution in January 1834 at age 21, having just arrived from England. He was elected to the Committee of Managers in 1835, and served as president in 1845 and 1846. A surveyor and architect, he designed the Customs House (1836), now part of the Pointe-à-Callières museum; McGill Arts Building (1843); Grand Séminaire de Montréal on Sherbrooke Street; and the (old) Court House (1859). Later, he ran a door and sash factory on the Lachine Canal. His son Joseph joined the Mechanics' Institute at age 13.

John Lovell, one of the eldest in a large Irish farming family located near Montreal, became a printer's apprentice and then started a publishing company that still operates-- the oldest family-owned enterprise in Canada. He published books, city directories, textbooks and sheet music. With his brother-in-law John Gibson, an MIM member, he published a journal called *The Literary Garland*, the first journal in Canada to pay authors for their fiction work. John Lovell was elected to MIM's Committee of Management in 1840 at the age of 30.

William Watson arrived from Scotland in 1801 with his parents, siblings and two millstones. They set up shop as millers near Montreal to take advantage of the Nun's Island current, and William Watson learned milling at an early age. The fortune he earned enabled his Ogilvie nephews -- Alexander Walker, John and William Watson Ogilvie - to build the largest flour milling enterprise in Canada. William Watson joined MIM in 1840, and his three nephews were also MIM members, Alexander being the most active of the three in the 1850s.

William Hutchison, son of Scottish farmer James Hutchison, became a mason, built the imposing Bank of Montreal building designed by John Wells, and was involved with the plans for the Library of Parliament. He joined MIM in 1843, and with Edward Maxwell made the preliminary plans

Last Farewell to QE2

The famous Cunard liner QE2 was launched at John Brown's shipyard on the river Clyde in 1967. Since then, the 70,000 tonne ship has travelled 5.9million nautical miles, carried 2.5 million passengers, crossed the Atlantic 804 times and completed 25 World Cruises. Earlier this month she called at Greenock on the Firth of Clyde for the last time, during a farewell voyage round the British Isles. After that she will sail into retirement as a floating hotel in Dubai. Thousands of spectators lined the shoreline as the ship spent a day at Greenock. Many others took trips in small boats from up and down the river to get a close-up view from the water.

for the Mechanics Hall that was built in 1854. William Hutchison's brother Matthew, also an MIM member, was for a time the flour inspector in Montreal and later formed a milling business with the Ogilvie brothers in Goderich, Ontario.

William's sons were prominent architect *Alexander Cowper* and builder *John Henry*.

A. C. Hutchison apprenticed as a stonemason with his father, learned architectural drawing at the Mechanics' Institute starting at age 13, and later taught the course. In addition to designing or building many of the enduring and graceful structures in Montreal, the young Hutchison brothers were responsible for the design and building of the ice palaces that were highlights of Montreal winter festivals in the late 1800s.

Welfare Committee: Warm Your Heart

Denise LaPointe, Chair of the Welfare Committee

I had been asked to write a few words about this committee's experiences, specifically about any "warm your heart" stories we may have encountered.

There are many requests for assistance that come through this committee that, if nothing else, serve as reminders to how fortunate most of us really are. One family in particular stands out amongst them all as an example of how one of our Society's prime aims can be realised.

In respect for their confidentiality, I will address them as the Smith family. We received a request for assistance some months back from Mr. Smith. He had been undergoing dialysis treatment for almost two years and was on a waiting list for a kidney transplant. His sudden and unexpected illness has caused great difficulty for his family; his wife has had to stop working to provide around-the-clock care for him and they have since been struggling to raise their two teenage sons on Mr. Smith's disability pension alone.

The lack of discretionary funds has naturally required them to be very budget conscious, for the last two years they have avoided frivolous spending, including dental care for themselves. Over a short time, Mr. Smith developed advanced dental decay. It was imperative that the repairs be attended to as quickly as possible, as the advanced decay would cause Mr. Smith to be removed from the waiting list of possible organ recipients. This is where the Welfare Committee initially got involved. A portion of the fees would be covered by our provincial health

care system, the McGill Dental Clinic provided the services and the Society was able to cover the balance.

Mr. Smith received the dental repairs and shortly thereafter an organ match became available. He has had the transplant surgery and is recovering remarkably well; the family are now looking forward to a bright future and return to normal living.

It would be impossible for me to fully convey Mrs. Smith's heartfelt thanks for, in her words, helping them to get their life back. With her husband's health steadily improving, they are able to actually plan life events most of us take for granted – going to work, taking a holiday. They continue to struggle on a daily basis, and we continue to discreetly monitor their situation, ready to step in if needed.

Private Rental Spaces: Households and Business Storage

Lock-It Storage Inc. has been providing a storage locker to the Society for many years. Their clean and secure facility is located five minutes from downtown just below Westmount, off the Glen at 4840 Acorn Street. Telephone is: 514 934-0386.

Mini storage is an inexpensive way to safely store personal and business items. They offer sizes as small as a closet or as large as a garage.

Society Ties

Society ties are still available. The embroidered logo on the tie is a golden rampant lion on a cross. These navy blue ties are similar to the Society's previous ties, except the logo is larger and they are made of silk. The price, including taxes and delivery, is only \$20. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact the Society's office.

Editor's Comments: As Editor of the Society's journal, I wanted to pass along my gratitude to all those who have helped me put together each of the last 4 editions. None of the small things each of you do for me go un-noticed, they make my job more interesting and dynamic; this issue is no exception. Thank you all and I look forward to all your future contributions.

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