

SSI NEWSLETTER

"Haste ye back." | Come back soon.

Meeting Details

Please be aware that the monthly meetings are in a buffet style. We do look for members to bring in the meat dish for the month. Please let us know if you are interested - we will reimburse you for the dish up to \$75.00.

Any or all guests are suggested to bring side dishes to share. Please bring a dish from the category based on the first letter of your LAST NAME with at least 3 servings per attending family member:

A-G – Salad
 H-M – Veggies/Casserole
 N-Z – Desserts
 Meat Dish - NEED VOLUNTEER

We will ask for anyone who is attending the meetings to please pay so we can pay for the rental space at the Latvian Community Center. Member price is \$5.00 - Guest price is \$7.00. The board has been discussing an increase with the pricing - more details soon to come with this possible change.

Monthly meetings take place ever 2nd Wednesday of the month. Meetings start at 7:00pm with announcements and dinner, then presentation will be around 8:00pm.

Social Media

For more information on articles, updates on meetings/events and more, please like and follow us on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/indyscot.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/77189328353992>



Letter from the Editor

Hello to all our SSI members, family, friends and fellow guests. Spring has come again and we hope you are enjoying the changes in the weather. Also, there are some nasty bugs flying around so please continue to stay safe and healthy during these times. Please note that this will be the newsletter format moving forward due to the previous website no longer a serviceable means for the society. We are sharing this newsletter now via email and through our social media.

The society has been working on getting our new SSI website updated and running properly. The board has been in discussion and we have been in talks with an outside source to help fix and recreate our website with new information and items for the organization moving forward. This is still a work in process so we apologize for the delay. We hope to get a new SSI website up and running sooner rather than later.

We are working hard with the 2024 Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival. The games committee and sub-committees have been working very hard behind the scenes preparing and getting this event ready. Much was learned from last year and there will be many improvements for the 2024 event - some changes will include more pipe bands (currently have two); layout of the grounds will change to improve access to activities and overall appearance; main stage and entertainment will be moved to a more central area on the grounds; more tables will be available for visitors; and so much more. If you don't know, the society and games committee is working to promote the games and gain early exposure compared to last year. The Games Committee chair is Greg Bowers and the Games Committee vice-chair is Rebekah Lawson. the set date for this event is on Saturday, October 12th.



Indy RSCD Updates

The Indy Royal Scottish County Dancers have been moving into 2024 with light feet. Here are some updates from this group:

- Moving forward, Barry Levitt with now be managing this group. He will be co-managing along with Bernadette Lange who is a certified SCD instruction, James & Heidi Horton and subject matter expert Sue Gaebler.
- The Indy SCD graced the presence of the SSI organization as they demoed a few dances for the March monthly meeting.

If you are interesting in joining in the dancing or wanting to see what a class is like, you can reach the organization in two ways - one is via email: IndyRSCD@gmail.com OR the others by phone: #317-426-1656. The group meets Monday evenings during the month. Class starts around 6:45pm and wraps up around 8:30pm.

New SSI Members

Please welcome the following new members to SSI:

- No new members to announce at this time.

Please remember that membership dues need to be paid for as they do not run roll over each year - it helps us to see who is active and inactive with the society at this time.

If you have any questions, concerns or want your ideas heard, please reach out to the board for more. With the spring season and the weather always changing, please stay safe and healthy. Thank you! Slainte!

- Sarah Rae ~ SSI Newsletter Editor, Board Member 2024

News from the Society

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was honored by Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) at the Spirit of the Philanthropy Awards during the month of April for the endowment the society gave the university. Robin and Denise Jarrett accepted the award on behalf of the organization. Tamela Eittle, Dean of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IU Indianapolis was among the presenters honoring the society.



PRESENTATIONS NEEDED

Please be aware that we are needing presenters for the monthly meetings starting in June until the end of 2024. The topic must be something Scottish related. The presentations are a big part of our monthly meetings and the topics could help bring more people through the door. If you are needing confirmation or would like to check if your topic is suitable, please reach out to the board for more assistance. **Note: The monthly meeting of November is out St. Andrews Dinner so no presentation is needed that month.

Meetings/Festivals Coming Up

Here are some upcoming meetings and/or festivals to keep in mind and to add to calendars:

- Solar Eclipse - April 8th
- SSI Games Committee Meeting - April 20th @ 10:00AM at McCalister's Deli off of 96th St and Meridian
- Viking Fest - April 26h-April 28th in Whitestown @ Anson Park
- Columbus Scottish Festival - September 14th-September 15th in Columbus
- Riley Days/Festival - October 3rd-October 6th in Greenfield
- Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival - October 12th at Marion County Fairgrounds
- Circle City Irish Fest - November 18th in Noblesville

Presentations Needed

Please be advised that we are needing volunteers for MONTHLY MEETING presentations. We do not have any starting from the month of May and moving forward. If you are interested in giving a presentation about something in the Scottish realm, please reach out to the SSI board of trustees to provide us a topic for the presentation. Volunteers can also email interest with a topic at indyscot@gmail.com.

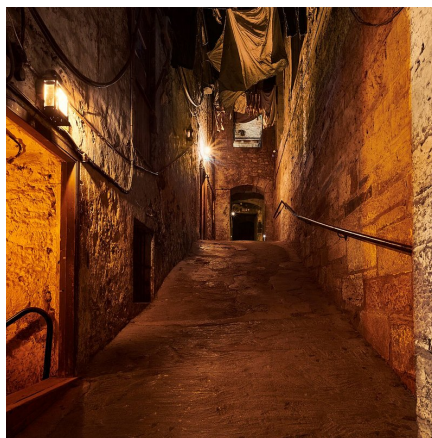
Monthly Meeting Recap

April 2024 - Life in 17th Century Edinburgh

For the month of April, we went back in time for some history. SSI member Tom Holman gave a presentation about "Life in 17th Century Edinburgh" based in part on the Mary King's Close historical attraction in Edinburgh. The close is located under Edinburgh Chambers building right on the Royal Mile in the Old Town area.

Here are some fun facts about this location. Mary King was a prominent merchant who traded in fabric and the close was named after her. However, during the construction of the Royal Exchange in 1760, the close was partly demolished and buried beneath the new building's foundations. It is true that people lived, worked and died in this area. In fact, the city of Edinburgh in the late 18th and early 19th century was not a pleasant place to live. It was crowded, unsanitary and unhealthy. Those who could afford to live outside the city centre or Old Town in the expanding suburbs. Closed to the world, after the close was demolished and buried, it has become the subject of ghost stories and urban legends.

The board would like to thank Tom Hohman for the presentation. Such a great presentation and discussion. Mary King's Close can be visited and you can tour the close when you are in the city. It is a great tour and the history is even greater.

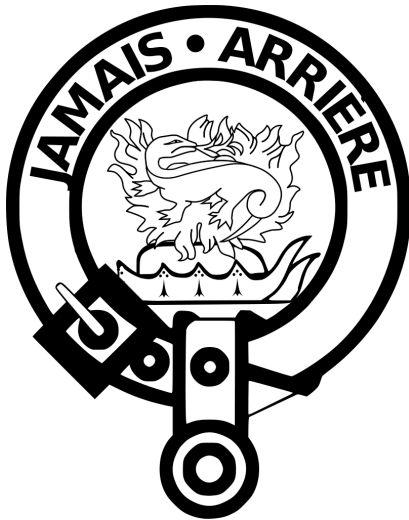


Clan of the Month

Clan Douglas

Clan Douglas is an ancient clan from the Scottish Lowlands. The Douglases were one of Scotland’s most powerful families, and the most powerful prominent family during the Late Middle Ages. This clan was said they were the ones holding the real power behind the throne of the Stewart Kings.

Motto: TENDER AND TRUE
FORWARD



Next Monthly Meeting

May 2024 - History of Dunnottor Castle

This month’s presentation will be given by our SSI President Carter Keith. He will be giving a presentation on the history of the legendary Dunnottor Castle and why it was attacked by Oliver Cromwell because of what it was hiding. This fortress has a long and storied history. The presentation will contain stunning photos from both inside and outside the castle. This meeting will take place on May 10th, 2024.

This event takes place at the Latvian Community Center. Social hour begins at 6:00pm with announcements and dinner beginning at 7:00pm. Presentation will begin around 8:00pm.



NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, May 10th

If you have any questions, concerns or if you would like to have input on what is put into the newsletter, please reach out to the SSI board of trustees so your words can be seen. Thank you!

End of Newsletter Edition