



**The History of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis (1983-2018)**

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot

## Past Presidents of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis



This photo includes the first six (6) Presidents who served during the first ten (10) years of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. Pictured left to right are Founder and President Emeritus Carter C. Keith (1984-88), Thomas C. Milton (1989-90), Marsha Smith Priest (1995), Carson C. Smith (1991-92 and 2000-04), Lee E. Cloe (1993), and Louis D. Shepherd (1994).

### **Author's Foreward**

*The History of the Scottish of Indianapolis* is, like the Society itself, a work in progress, and it is my intention to continue to expand, revise and update our history annually. George Orwell, author of *Animal Farm* and *1984*, wrote that, "Those who control the present control the past, and those who control the past control the future." And, although it has been suggested that I remove certain names from our records, my goal has been to provide an objective history of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot  
Past President (1991-92 and 2000-04)  
Scottish Society of Indianapolis

### **The Founding of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis**

1983

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was born in the heart of Founder and President Emeritus Carter Carlisle Keith, following his appointment to the office of Convener for the State of Indiana, Clan Keith Society USA, on October 10, 1983. Organization began with the filing of an official letter of intent on December 1, 1983, with the Indiana Secretary of State, establishing the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, to become effective on December 31, 1983.

1984

With the enthusiastic encouragement of the International Center of Indianapolis, representatives of Clans Campbell (Anna Gale Dortch), Grant (Ann Grant Miller), and Lamont (Charli Keith Turner), and organizational assistance from G. Edward (Ned) Buxton, III, of the Clan Keith Society USA, the first Board meeting was convened on Monday, April 23, 1984, at the home of Carter Keith at 4705 North Broadway.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was incorporated as a not-for-profit on August 23, 1984. To fill out the first Board of Trustees, Carter Keith relied heavily upon the members of his own family. His first Vice President was his twin brother, Neal Keith. His first Secretary was Charli Keith Turner. His first Treasurer was his sister-in-law Teresa Keith. The balance of the Board of Trustees included his brother, Teresa's husband, Todd Keith, and Carter's mother, Marjorie Workman Keith.

The Society made its first appearance at the 9th Annual International Festival, presented by the International Center of Indianapolis, at the Indiana Convention Center on the weekend of October 20, 1984, during which the Society was awarded Second Place honors for Education. It was here that Carter and I had our first face-to-face meeting, following an earlier phone conversation, suggested by Scott Hosier, at a meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution, which featured a presentation by John (Scotty) Selch, on genealogical research, using the Periodicals Section of the Indiana State Library.

1985

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was granted membership in the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA) on February 21, 1985. As the result of the Society's rapid growth, the monthly meetings of the SSI were moved from the International Center of Indianapolis to the Clubhouse of Westlake Arms Apartments, home of Todd and Teresa Keith. The first meeting at this new location was convened on Wednesday, March 13, 1985.

Meetings of the General Membership were called to order at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month. The Board of Trustees met in the home of President Carter Keith at 4705 North Broadway.

In May of 1985, Carter Keith convened an impromptu organizational meeting, while we were loading furniture onto a van, at the home of Charli Keith Turner and her daughter, DeAnna Lynn Turner, who were moving to Shellman, Georgia. I was asked to serve as Vice President and the Society's first Newsletter Editor. The first issue, Volume I, Number 1, of *The Thistle* was printed in June of 1985.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis had grown from an initial gathering of nine (9) individuals, to include over sixty (60) memberships, thirty (30) of which were family memberships. The Society continued to develop a reservoir of information concerning Scottish Clans, genealogical research, music, tartans and, of course, Scotland. A small, but growing, Society library was stored at the home of the President.

The First Annual Founders Day Dinner and Ceilidh took place at the Clubhouse of Westlake Arms on Wednesday, November 13, 1985. The event was organized by Chairman Ann Grant Miller, decorations were supplied by Barbara (Bobbi) Murchie and Virginia (Ginny) Thompson, entertainment was provided by Piper Roderick A. (Roddy) MacDonald (the Elder), posters were created by Mrs. Stephen (Jacque) Andrews, the layout for the program, flyer, and tickets were provided by Robert (Bob) Miller, ticket sales were supervised by John Patrick, tables and chairs were put in place by William D. (Bill) Murchie, and the first Society election was directed by Chairman Lee Cloe.

The Society's first election yielded the following results: President Carter C. Keith, Vice President Carson C. Smith, Secretary John J. Patrick, Treasurer Jacque Andrews, ICI Liaison Brian J. McCall, Public Relations Officer Ann Grant Miller, and Reserve Duty Officer Louis D. Shepherd.

In addition to founding the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, Carter Keith drafted the first set of bylaws, designed the Society logo, created the newsletter, and called it *The Thistle*, and designed the Society flag and had it assembled. Much of what he did for the formation of the Society was hammered out on an IBM Selectric typewriter, under a single light bulb, at a small desk in the attic of his home at 4705 North Broadway.

Carter went on to rise through the ranks of the Clan Keith Society USA and ultimately became its National President for four (4) years. His Keith ancestors fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill, consequently, he was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, in which he served as a member of the Color Guard for two (2) years. He has also assumed the office of Camp Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans.

He and his wife, Judy, celebrated their Fortieth (40) Wedding Anniversary on April 23, 2017. They have two (2) children, Laura and Douglas, a son-in-law, Russ Williams, a granddaughter, Elly, and a rescue dog named Paddlefoot. Carter completed a thirty-three (33) year career in government as Manager of Federal Aid Programming for streets, roads, and bridges. It was, in fact, Carter Keith who approved funding for the Monon Trail, where Patty and I met over seventeen (17) years ago. Finally, he was involved in Scouting for twenty-five (25) years, and currently serves as the Public Affairs Officer for District 8 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

### **The Board of Trustees of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis**

#### 1985 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	John J. Patrick
Treasurer	Teresa D. Keith

#### 1986 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	John J. Patrick
Treasurer	Jacque Andrews

Trustee Brian J. McColl  
Trustee Ann Grant Miller  
Trustee Gregory W. Graham  
Trustee Neal H. Keith

1987 Board of Trustees

President Carter C. Keith  
Vice Pres Carson C. Smith  
Secretary Barbara Murchie  
Treasurer Jacque Andrews  
Trustee Wallace K. Aiken  
Trustee Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee Thomas H. Thompson

1989 Board of Trustees

President Thomas C. Milton  
Vice Pres Stephen K. Andrews  
Secretary Lynn Allyn Young  
Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee Lee E. Cloe  
Trustee Donald M. McMillan  
Trustee Thomas H. Thompson

1991 Board of Trustees

President Carson C. Smith  
Vice Pres Lee E. Cloe  
Secretary Jerry G. Elliot  
Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee James Lamb  
Trustee Mary Ann Pavlovich  
Trustee Marsha Smith Priest  
Trustee Michael J. Stevens

1993 Board of Trustees

President Lee E. Cloe  
Vice Pres Louis D. Shepherd  
Secretary Lee E. Cloe  
Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee Jeanne B. Blake  
Trustee James Lamb  
Trustee Mary Ann Pavlovich  
Trustee Michael J. Stevens

Trustee Brian J. McCall  
Trustee Ann Grant Miller  
Trustee Louis D. Shepherd

1988 Board of Trustees

President Carter C. Keith  
Vice Pres Carson C. Smith  
Secretary Barbara Murchie  
Treasurer Jacque Andrews  
Trustee Stephen K. Andrews  
Trustee Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee Thomas H. Thompson

1990 Board of Trustees

President Thomas C. Milton  
Vice Pres Carson C. Smith  
Secretary Lynn Allyn Young  
Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee Stephen K. Andrews  
Trustee Lee E. Cloe  
Trustee James Lamb  
Trustee Jeffrey B. Mills

1992 Board of Trustees

President Carson C. Smith  
Vice Pres Lee E. Cloe  
Secretary Lee E. Cloe  
Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd  
Trustee James R. Campbell  
Trustee James Lamb  
Trustee Mary Ann Pavlovich  
Trustee Michael J. Stevens

1994 Board of Trustees

President Louis D. Shepherd  
Vice Pres Marsha Smith Priest  
Secretary Lee E. Cloe  
Treasurer John L. Porteous, Jr.  
Trustee Jeanne B. Blake  
Trustee Elizabeth A. Hague  
Trustee Mary Ann Pavlovich

1995 Board of Trustees

President	Marsha Smith Priest
Vice Pres	Frederick B. Dundas
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Bill McKnight
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Mary Ann Steiner

1996 Board of Trustees

President	Frederick B. Dundas
Vice Pres	Bill McKnight
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Carter C. Keith
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Marsha Van Camp

1997 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Marsha Van Camp
Trustee	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich

1998 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Louis D. Shepherd

1999 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	Dean C. McKean
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich

2000 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jean McDonald
Trustee	Dean C. McKean
Trustee	Donna Stogsdill

2001 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Kristy A. Byers
Trustee	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Janet A. Nichols
Trustee	Robert J. Pate

2002 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Kristy A. Byers
Trustee	Edward S. Adams
Trustee	Nancy L. Foxworthy
Trustee	Mary E. Mahoney

2003 Board of Trustees

2004 Board of Trustees



President Carson C. Smith  
Vice Pres Judith P. Bastin  
Secretary Nancy L. Foxworthy  
Treasurer Kristy A. Byers  
Trustee Edward S. Adams  
Trustee Jack T. Davidson  
Trustee Mary E. Mahoney

President Carson C. Smith  
Vice Pres Jack T. Davidson  
Secretary Nancy L. Foxworthy  
Treasurer Kristy A. Byers  
Trustee Edward S. Adams  
Trustee Judith P. Bastin  
Trustee Gordon H. Inglis

#### 2005 Board of Trustees

President Jack T. Davidson  
Vice Pres Gordon H. Inglis  
Secretary Ronald L. Walker  
Treasurer Kristy A. Byers  
Trustee Edward S. Adams  
Trustee Judith P. Bastin  
Trustee John D. Dockery, II  
Trustee George R. McMath

#### 2006 Board of Trustees

President Gordon H. Inglis  
Vice Pres Edward S. Adams  
Secretary Judith P. Bastin  
Treasurer Kristy A. Byers  
Trustee Jack T. Davidson  
Trustee John D. Dockery, II  
Trustee George R. McMath  
Trustee Ronald L. Walker

#### 2007 Board of Trustees

President Gordon H. Inglis  
Vice Pres Edward S. Adams  
Secretary Judith P. Bastin  
Treasurer John D. Dockery, II  
Trustee Jack T. Davidson  
Trustee Rebekah Lawson  
Trustee Ronald L. Walker

#### 2008 Board of Trustees

President Gordon H. Inglis  
Secretary Judith P. Bastin  
Treasurer John D. Dockery, II  
Trustee Gary L. Davidson  
Trustee Jack T. Davidson  
Trustee Rebecca McClure  
Trustee Ronald L. Walker

#### 2009 Board of Trustees

President Gary L. Davidson  
Vice Pres Matthew C. Douglass  
Secretary Judith P. Bastin  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Alexandra Douglass  
Trustee Rebekah Lawson  
Trustee Kenneth L. Morgan

#### 2010 Board of Trustees

President Gary L. Davidson  
Vice Pres Matthew C. Douglass  
Secretary Gregory A. Bowers  
Treasurer Ronald L. Elliott  
Trustee Mark G. Lawson  
Trustee Rebekah Lawson  
Trustee Kenneth L. Morgan

#### 2011 Board of Trustees

President Gary L. Davidson

#### 2012 Board of Trustees

President Rebekah Lawson

Vice Pres Gregory A. Bowers  
Vice Pres Rebekah Lawson  
Secretary Walter Sherman  
Treasurer Ronald L. Elliott  
Trustee Mark G. Lawson  
Trustee Kenneth L. Morgan

Vice Pres Gregory A. Bowers  
Secretary Terry Miller  
Treasurer Ronald L. Elliott  
Trustee Robin P. Jarrett  
Trustee Mark G. Lawson  
Trustee Kenneth L. Morgan

#### 2013 Board of Trustees

President Mark G. Lawson  
Vice Pres Gregory A. Bowers  
Secretary Elisabeth Hedges  
Treasurer Ronald L. Elliott  
Trustee Robin P. Jarrett  
Trustee Mack L. Hunter  
Trustee Kenneth L. Morgan

#### 2014 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Armand C. Hayes  
Trustee Samuel J. Lawson  
Trustee Carson C. Smith  
Trustee Andrew E. Thompson

#### 2015 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth A. Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Armand C. Hayes  
Trustee Samuel J. Lawson  
Trustee Carson C. Smith  
Trustee Andrew E. Thompson

#### 2016 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth A. Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Armand C. Hayes  
Trustee Samuel J. Lawson  
Trustee Carson C. Smith  
Trustee Andrew E. Thompson

#### 2017 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth A. Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Matthew C. Douglass  
Trustee Samuel J. Lawson  
Trustee Kristy Byers Stewart  
Trustee Andrew E. Thompson

#### 2018 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth A. Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson  
Trustee Matthew C. Douglass  
Trustee Samuel J. Lawson  
Trustee Kristy Byers Stewart  
Trustee Andrew E. Thompson

#### 2019 Board of Trustees

President Robin P. Jarrett  
Secretary Elisabeth A. Hedges  
Treasurer Steven Johnson

#### 2020 Board of Trustees

President  
Secretary  
Treasurer

Trustee Karen Couch  
Trustee Sarah Rae  
Trustee Michael E. Smith  
Trustee Thomas E. Wallace

Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee  
Trustee

### **Officers of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis**

#### Presidents

1984-88 Carter C. Keith  
1989-90 Thomas C. Milton  
1991-92 Carson C. Smith  
1993 Lee E. Cloe  
1994 Louis D. Shepherd  
1995 Marsha Smith Priest  
1996 Frederick B. Dundas (Died 02/02/96)  
1996 Lee E. Cloe (Interim)  
1997-99 Diana Stevens  
2000-04 Carson C. Smith  
2005 Jack T. Davidson  
2006-08 Gordon H. Inglis  
2009-11 Gary L. Davidson

#### Vice Presidents

1985-88 Carson C. Smith  
1989 Stephen K. Andrews  
1990 Carson C. Smith  
1991-92 Lee E. Cloe  
1993 Louis D. Shepherd  
1994 Marsha Smith Priest  
1995 Frederick B. Dundas  
1996 Bill McKnight  
1997-99 Carter C. Keith  
2000-03 Judith P. Bastin  
2004 Jack T. Davidson  
2005 Gordon H. Inglis  
2006-07 Edward S. Adams

2012 Rebekah Lawson  
2012-13 Mark G. Lawson  
2014-19 Robin P. Jarrett

2009-10 Matthew C. Douglass  
2011-13 Gregory A. Bowers

#### Secretaries

1986 John J. Patrick  
1987-88 Barbara Murchie  
1987-90 Lynn Allyn Young  
1991 Jerry G. Elliot  
1992-98 Lee E. Cloe  
1999 Judith P. Bastin  
2000-02 Lee E. Cloe  
2003-04 Nancy L. Foxworthy  
2005 Ronald L. Walker  
2006-09 Judith P. Bastin  
2010 Gregory A. Bowers  
2011 Walter Sherman  
2012 Terry Miller  
2013-19 Elisabeth A. Hedges

#### Treasurers

1986-88 Jacque Andrews  
1989-93 Louis D. Shepherd  
1994 John L. Porteous  
1995-96 Elizabeth A. Hague  
1997 Marsha Van Camp  
1998-00 Rebecca Bilbrey  
2001-06 Kristy A. Byers  
2007-08 John D. Dockery, II  
2009 Steven Johnson  
2010-13 Ronald L. Elliott  
2014-19 Steven Johnson

#### Newsletter Editors

1985-86 Carson C. Smith  
1986-87 Walter Buchanan  
1987-90 Lynn Allyn Young  
1990-92 Carson C. Smith  
1993-99 Lee E. Cloe  
1999 Carter C. Keith  
2000-02 Rebecca Bilbrey  
2002-05 Judith P. Bastin  
2005-08 Ronald L. Walker  
2009-10 Matthew C. Douglass  
2011-13 Gregory A. Bowers  
2014-16 Armand C. Hayes  
2017-18 Matthew C. Douglass

#### NCI Liaison Officers

1986-88 Brian J. McCall  
1989 Carson C. Smith  
1989-96 Michael and Diana Stevens  
1997-01 Rebecca Bilbrey  
2001-03 Mary E. Mahoney  
2003-04 Carson C. Smith  
2004 John E. Trotter  
2005 George R. McMath, Jr.  
2006-14 Carol Atherton Clarkson  
2015-19 Carson C. Smith

#### **Recipients of the Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award for Excellence**

1989 Lynn Allyn Young

1990 Stephen K. Andrews

1991	Lee E. Cloe	1992	Louis D. Shepherd
1993	James Lamb	1994	Carter C. Keith
1995	Michael and Diana Stevens	1996	Frederick B. Dundas (Posthumous)
1997	Mary Ann Innes Pavlovich	1998	Jeanne B. Blake
1999	Diana Stevens	2000	Rebecca Bilbrey
2001	Judith P. Bastin	2002	Lewis E. Forbes (Posthumous)
2003	Kristy A. Byers	2004	Carson C. Smith
2005	Nancy L. Foxworthy	2006	Jack T. Davidson
2007	Rebekah Lawson	2008	George R. McMath, Jr.
2009	Bennett F. Lynch	2010	John D. Dockery, II
2011	Gary and Julie Davidson	2012	Andy and Mary Thompson
2013	Ronald L. Elliott	2014	Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett
2015	Steven Johnson	2016	Robin P. Jarrett
2017	Rick Blacklidge	2018	Mark G. and Donna Mae Lawson

### **Honorary Titles Conferred by the Scottish Society of Indianapolis**

Founder and President Emeritus  
Carter C. Keith

Honorary Life Member  
G. Edward (Ned) Buxton, III

Trustee Emeritus  
Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson

Secretary Emeritus  
Maj. Lee E. Cloe, D. Ed., USAF (Ret.)

### **Meeting Places of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis**

May 1984 to February 1985

March 1985 to August 1987

International Center of Indianapolis  
200 W. 49th St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46208-3412  
317-686-3850 Phone

Westlake Arms Apartments  
6000 W. Lake Dr.  
Indianapolis, IN 46224-7980  
317-248-0666 Phone

September 1987 to March 1989

April 1989 to February 1996

Marcy Village Apartments  
4561 Marcy Ln.  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2044  
317-259-7774 Phone

Trinity Episcopal Church  
3243 N. Meridian St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46208-4677  
317-926-1346 Phone

March 1996

April 1996 to December 2001

Knights of Columbus

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1040 N. Post Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46219-4222  
317-897-1577 Phone

Educational Building  
10 W. 61st St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46208-1594  
317-253-1277 Phone

January 2002

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church  
Rectory Basement  
4217 Central Av.  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1896  
317-283-5508 Phone

February 2002

St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church  
Athletic Complex  
500 E. 42nd St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1897  
317-283-5508 Phone

April 2002 to August 2002

All Souls Unitarian Church  
5805 E. 56th St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46226-1526  
317-545-6005 Phone

September 2002 to October 2003

Indianapolis Firefighters Union Hall  
748 Massachusetts Av.  
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1609  
317-262-5161 Phone

November 2003 to December 2003

Church of St. Edward the Confessor  
6361 N. Keystone Av.  
Indianapolis, IN 46220-2156  
317-253-3949 Phone

January 2004 to December 2006

Robert E. Sterrett Senior Center  
8950 Otis Av.  
Indianapolis, IN 46216-1033  
317-549-4815 Phone

January 2007 to Present

The Latvian Community Center  
1008 W. 64th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46260-4458  
317-255-0992 Phone

### **The Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival**

1st Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 9, 2010  
Latvian Community Center  
Chairman Gary L. Davidson

2nd Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 8, 2011  
Latvian Community Center  
Chairman Gary L. Davidson

3rd Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 13, 2012  
German Park  
Chairman Gary L. Davidson\*

4th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 11, 2013  
German Park  
Chairman Gary L. Davidson\*

5th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 11, 2014  
German Park  
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

6th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 10, 2015  
German Park  
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

7th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 8, 2016  
German Park  
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

8th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 14, 2017  
German Park  
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

9th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 13, 2018  
German Park

10th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games  
Saturday, October 12, 2019  
German Park

Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

\*Co-Chairman Gregory A. Bowers

### **Recipients of the Title of Knight of the Realm or Lady of the Realm**

2011 Mayor Gregory A. Ballard  
2013 Sherriff John R. Layton  
2015 Mary E. Thompson  
2017 Varis Grapis

2012 Andris P. Berzins  
2014 Mark G. Lawson  
2016 Elisabeth A. Hedges  
2018 Robin P. Jarrett  
Mayor Joseph H. Hogsett

### **Recipients of the Order of the Unicorn for Contributions by Non-Members**

2016 Eric Jones  
2018 Arnie Lewin

2017 Doug Hardwick

### **Flowers of the Forest**

1989  
Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson

1993  
Barbara (Bobbi) Murchie  
James Lamb

1996  
Andy Thompson  
Frederick B. Dundas

1997  
Marjorie Workman Keith

2002  
Lewis E. Forbes

2003  
Carl R. Dortch  
Mary Stewart  
Liz Johnson

2007  
Roderick D. (Roddy) MacDonald

2013  
Helen Nugent  
Neal H. Keith  
William D. (Bill) Murchie  
Gloria Bulger

2014  
Ann Grant Miller

2015  
Wallace K. (Wally) Aiken, Jr.  
Dr. Wallace Gordon Diehl  
David L. Hager

2016  
Lee E. Cloe

2018  
Lola Thompson



2008

Virginia (Ginny) Thompson

2009

Scott F. Hosier, Jr.

George R. McMath, Jr.

Anna Gale Dortch

2010

Louis D. Shepherd

George E. Vickery, III

2012

Gordon H. Inglis

### **State of the Society Address 2018**

Ladies and Gentlemen, Board of Trustees, fellow Scots,

Our St. Andrew's Dinner is one of our most important events of the year, and I'm pleased to see such a large turnout for this event. In other words, I bid you welcome. I would like to thank Kristy Byers Stewart for her meticulous planning of this night's event. Kristy and Rick Blacklidge worked together to organize, plan, and decorate, and I think they deserve a round of applause for a job well done. In addition, I would like to thank the staff here at the Inn for making our evening an enjoyable one.

This will be the fifth time I've stood before you and delivered a report on the state of our beloved society. In years past I've spoken of many things - people, presence in community, member participation, solvency, scholarships and endowments. This year will be no different, as our Society continues to grow and prosper in Gach ni Albanach.

As I spent the morning re-reading some of my past State of the Society addresses, it became apparent that the one reoccurring theme in each speech the key elements to any group or society - its people. Bear with me as I reiterate an obvious fact. It becomes easy to forget the importance even the smallest contributions make. Small things like bringing a side dish to meetings, setting up chairs, or working a shift in our cultural booth, to name a few. Bigger things like presenting a program as Charlotte and Tom as first timers did, scheduling and setting up our information booth at events like Matt and Armand who took charge of the Irish Fest tent for the first time, working and volunteering at the games like many of you do - all are important contributions in the ebb and flow of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. When you really think about it, it's amazing how much our people do, for and with, our little group of Scots.

I'd like to mention a few people of note - my darling wife, Deneice, whose loving patience and support make it possible for me to be your president. I need to mention the board of trustees - Steven, what an amazingly productive and busy year you've had as our treasurer and keeper of

the records! Well done sir, and as the president of the society and your friend, thank you. Elisabeth, I thank you for your work during the festival, sorting through the mayhem of our board meetings, and your efforts to put together the silent auction at the Summer Celebration. Thank you, Andy, Matt, Kristy, Samuel, and Karen for your efforts this past year and your continuing support our society and me. My beloved Deneice again along with Lise Douglass, as you've already heard, led yet another successful event called the Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival - amazing job ladies! Our people and their contributions, big or small, have helped make 2018 a successful year.

Presence in the community and member participation are linked together so tightly that one cannot be mentioned without the other. The Scottish Society started the year as we always do by celebrating Robert Burns with "Burns Lite". The Scottish Society of Indianapolis sponsored a Scottish themed Christmas tree at the Indiana Historical Society. We tasted whisky in February, and made an appearance at the IUPUI International Festival. We participated once again in the St Patrick's Day Parade and celebrated our heritage as Jane and Dan led us in some most excellent Scottish Country Dancing. We took a virtual tour as Carson Smith led us through Rosslyn Chapel and its connection to Freemasonry. We learned how to plan for a trip to Scotland by the VP of Whisky, Matt Douglass. Deneice and I were honored to meet the Latvian Ambassador to the United States during the Latvian community's 100 year celebration of their country. Society members learned about Fairies and Legends of Scotland, and the History of Beer Brewing in Lafayette IN. We enjoyed an evening outside at our "Great Scottish Summer Celebration" with the gentle strains of Pictus in the air. Members attended and exhibited at the Air Force Diversity Day. We participated at the Summer Solstice Festival and bore a torch to represent Scotland in the fire lighting ceremony. The society exhibited again at the Columbus Scottish Games where we again sponsored the Best Clan Tent Award and participated in the Parade of Clans. We again hosted a tent at the Indy Irish Fest where we met and spoke with many people. Members presented at the "Get on Board" leadership fair. We hosted the 9th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival this year. Our games are indeed the greatest way we make an impression in our city. Thousands bore witness to the success of this venture. Lise and Deneice, in the five years you have served as chairs, you have led the committee in creating one of the finest festivals of its kind in the Midwest and the largest amateur athletic event in North America. The children's quest is a stroke of genius - what a fantastic way of immersing the wee ones in Scottish Heritage! Our cultural and educational impact on the community is tremendous, and I congratulate you on a job well done. Our presence and participation were indeed extended into 2018.

I would like to report that the Society and Foundation By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures as well as the Code of Conduct are updated and current. The Society has grown to 136 individual and family memberships with 21 added this year. I'd like to report that the Scottish Society of Indianapolis is strong and solvent. We are in control of some 58,000 dollars including 15,000 dollars in our rainy day fund, and I must note the Games are paid for!

The Scottish Foundation of Indianapolis McMath Scholarship endowment now contains over 18,631.50 dollars. With our contribution tonight we will bring the total to 30,000 dollars, surpassing our first benchmark of 25,000 dollars and well on our way to our final goal of 50,000 dollars. Indiana University will then match that sum, to bring the total to 100,000 dollars. Our goal of funding education in "All things Scottish" will become a reality and continue in

perpetuity. This is an amazing result for a small group of people, and it goes to show what vision, hard work, and tenacity will achieve when we work to a common cause, and I congratulate you all on helping me make this happen.

I would like to add some more fuel for thought - the Scottish Society of Indianapolis is an ever-evolving entity, so we must be concerned and watchful that we can sustain our momentum into the future. Service from its members is the only way this can happen. I urge you to attend, volunteer, and participate.

Sustainability is beginning to become a concern for me, members of the board and the co-chairs for the games. I had stated last November that 2018 would be my last term as Society President and that a fresh prospective from new leadership would be a good thing. We do have four new board members for 2019, and I believe this will help instill some new vigor into the Board of Trustees. However, with no clear or apparent candidates for my office, I felt compelled to run again as president for 2019. I do this gladly, but with the concern that I do not wish to remain in office forever. Sustainability must be provided by the membership which refers to the office of president, treasurer, chairmanship of the games, committee participation, and the board of trustees. Any or all of these levels of service are rewarding and deeply satisfying. I dare say there are many of you who are well-qualified to do the afore mentioned tasks. Many of us who are in service now have been so for a long while, and at some point will have to step back and let others carry the torch so to speak. I ask you to look within yourselves to answer the call, so we can continue to maintain the high level of "All things Scottish."

Just like our ancestors from a small place across the sea, the Scottish Society of Indianapolis has made impact through presence and education wherever we have gone. I, as your president, declare 2018 a year of success in Gach ni Albanach, and I know we will, as this small band of Scots, endeavor to make a big impression in the years to come. May we stand and hold our glasses high and make a toast to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis and its successes past, present, and future. Thank you for a great year and your confidence in me as we move forward into next year and beyond.

Slainte'

Robin Jarrett, FSA Scot  
President Scottish Society of Indianapolis

### **The Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award**

The time has come to present this year's Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award for Excellence in Service to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. On occasion, one of our newer members will ask, "Who was Tommy Thompson?" The question serves to remind me how very much the membership of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis has grown, and changed, since its founding in December of 1983.

A slender, darkly tanned, mustachioed man of average height, wearing black plastic framed glasses, Tommy is recalled by his widow, Ginny Sheely Thompson, as an especially "well-built" man who enjoyed swimming. He wore a kilt fashioned from the tartan of Clan Douglas, a khaki colored military styled tunic, and the Glengarry bonnet after which the US Army's overseas cap is modeled. He was a plainspoken man and possessed a wry sense of humor.

Thomas Hubbard Thompson was born on May 31, 1918, in Washington, DC, during his father's service as a Captain in the US Army in World War I. Tommy was descended from one of Indianapolis' prominent families. His great-grandfather, William S. Hubbard, owned the ground upon which L.S. Ayres was built, at the southwest corner of Washington and South Meridian Streets, and founded and served upon the Board of Directors of both Crown Hill Cemetery and Second Presbyterian Church. It was through his mother that Tommy was descended from Katherine Douglas.

Tommy was an only child. His father's career relocated the family to the American South. Tommy attended school in Florida and Alabama, where he was called a "Damned Yank." Ironically, upon the family's return to Indianapolis, his schoolmates called him a "Damned Reb." Tommy was a graduate of Shortridge High School. He attended Butler University, where he pledged Delta Tau Delta, and graduated with a degree in Business Administration and Economics in 1941.

Tommy Thompson enlisted in the US Army, the day following the Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor, at the age of twenty-three. He served five years in the Pacific theater of operation as the Head of Ordinance in Leyte and the Philippines. Following the war's conclusion, Tommy returned to Indianapolis where he worked part-time for the CIT Credit Corporation, later Universal CIT, a lending institution, which financed freight carriers and personal auto loans.

It was there he met Virginia (Ginny) Sheely, Head of Personnel, in October of 1946. Like Tommy, Ginny was a graduate of Butler University. Like Tommy, Ginny had studied Business Administration and Economics. Like Tommy, Ginny had participated in the Greek system at Butler. Tommy was a Delta Tau Delta. Ginny was an Alpha Omega Pi. Like Tommy, Ginny had never married.

They were married in May of 1947 when, according to Ginny, “We both weighed 147 pounds in 1947!” Ginny has commented that, because Tommy and Ginny had both remained single into their thirties, the success of their marriage bore powerful witness to their mutual flexibility.

To comply with CIT’s corporate policy barring married employees, Tommy took a position with Standard Oil Company’s Indianapolis office’s at 11th and Capitol, and, later, 38th Street, across from the Indiana State Fairgrounds, where he worked as an Assistant Credit Manager for nineteen years.

Tommy and Ginny had one son, Douglas Hubbard Thompson, born in 1952, who later fathered their one granddaughter, Molly. Tommy continued to serve in the US Army, active and reserve, for twenty-two years, retiring in 1965 with the rank of Major. Following Standard Oil Company’s closure of its Indianapolis offices, Tommy was asked to relocate to either Chicago or Detroit. He opted, instead, to retire from Standard Oil Company in 1966 and joined First Federal Savings and Loan Association, later, First Indiana Bank, moving from offices on the Indianapolis Westside to Nora, Carmel, and Westfield.

Tommy retired from the private sector, leaving his position as Assistant Vice President and Head of Security for First Indiana Bank, on his 65th birthday on May 31, 1983. He served two terms on the Clay Township Advisory Board and was a Charter Member of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church where he served two terms as a deacon. He was a member of the Retired Officers Association of Indiana, American Legion Kennington Post No. 34 in Broad Ripple, and the Indianapolis-Marion County and Carmel-Clay Historical Societies.

Tommy built, and later remodeled, their home at 10680 Highland Drive, with his own hands, and with, she would be quick to add, no small help from his wife, Ginny. Tommy and Ginny, who is, herself, of German extraction, traveled five times to Scotland and four times to Germany. They became involved in Scottish-American Heritage activities as enthusiastic supporters of Clan Douglas. Tommy and Ginny attended games and gatherings in Carrollton, Kentucky, and Gatlinburg, Tennessee, setting up camp in a brown Dodge Van outfitted with curtains that Ginny had made.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was founded by its first President, Carter Keith, with the filing of an official letter of intent, with the Indiana Secretary of State, on December 1, 1983, to become effective December 31, 1983. Tommy and Ginny Thompson joined the Scottish Society of Indianapolis in its first year. Tommy was elected to serve upon the Board of Trustees in 1987, 1988, and 1989, and represented the Society at its Cultural Booth at the International Festival of Indianapolis, and built the Celtic cross displayed at Society functions.

As the result of the efforts of Trustee Tommy Thompson, the Scottish Society of Indianapolis sponsored two firsts on Sunday, November 15, 1987, with two Kirkins o' the Tartan. The first, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church at 10:00 AM, and, the second, later that same day, at Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal Church at 4:00 PM, in connection with its 150th Anniversary Celebration.

Tommy was diagnosed with terminal cancer, following his election in November of 1988, to the 1989 Board of Trustees, and given less than one year to live. He resigned from the Board who, under the direction of President Tom Milton, at their meeting in February of 1989, named Tommy "Trustee Emeritus" in recognition of his many invaluable contributions to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Tommy faced his cancer head on, using the time remaining to prepare his wife, Ginny, to manage their affairs without him. I am so very grateful that, during that final summer, I had the opportunity to spend an evening, sitting on the back porch, and watching the sunset, with Tommy and Ginny Thompson.

Tommy died in the home he and Ginny had built with their own hands in August of 1989. He was laid to rest in the uniform of the United States Army, which he had worn through twenty-two years of service, active and reserve. The members of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis appeared at Tommy's funeral dressed in full Scottish regalia. At the cemetery, his old friend, Colonel Bill Murchie, piped Tommy off with *Amazing Grace*. No Highland Chief ever received a finer send-off than Tommy Thompson.

Throughout his life, and in that final summer prior to his death, Tommy modeled the pursuit of excellence. And, so it is, that I am honored to call Tommy's widow, Ginny Thompson, to the podium, to present this year's Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award for Excellence in Service to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot  
Past President (1991-92 and 2000-04)  
Scottish Society of Indianapolis