

Official Newsletter - Dec.
2021
**END OF THE YEAR
EDITION**

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

We hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season spending time with friends, family and dear ones. It has been a busy season for the SSI with many changes no one expected. The pandemic is still around things escalating again. We hope those who want to get the vaccine and boosters do so at your choice. Behind the scenes of the SSI, we have been changing with a new board coming in 2022 and a change in president. 2022 will be a new year and again a year where things will change off/on when it comes to this society. The board would like to thank all of our membership for the continuous support and loyalty to our society.

With that being said, we would like to announce the SSI Board of Trustees for 2022: Sarah Rae (president), Dan Patton (trustee/treasurer), Paula Hardesty (trustee/secretary), Kathy Hohman (trustee/outreach/election chair), Greg Bowers (trustee/IT assistance), Mark Lawson (trustee) and Tom Wallace (trustee). Our 2021 SSI president Matt Douglass will be assisting Sarah while transitioning into the presidential role for next year. We would like thank those 2021 board members for all their support this year who have decided to retire - it much appreciated and thanks for your services.

At this time, the board has a sound plan with meetings for next year. The board will make the decision each month if we will have in-person meetings that month or if we will have our remote Zoom meetings like before. The announcements will be made on our social media sites and here on

Learn How to Speak Scottish Gaelic:

bliadhna mhath ur

Happy New Year



MEETING DETAILS: With the in-flux of cases and changes with the COVID-19 pandemic, the January 2022 meeting will be a VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING. Please review information on the newsletter in how to join the meeting online. The monthly meetings take place every 2nd Wednesday of the month.

All updates in regards to monthly meetings will be announced each month in the newsletter and on our social media sites.

[Click Here to Check Out Website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA:

For more articles, updates on events and more - Like and follow us on Facebook

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

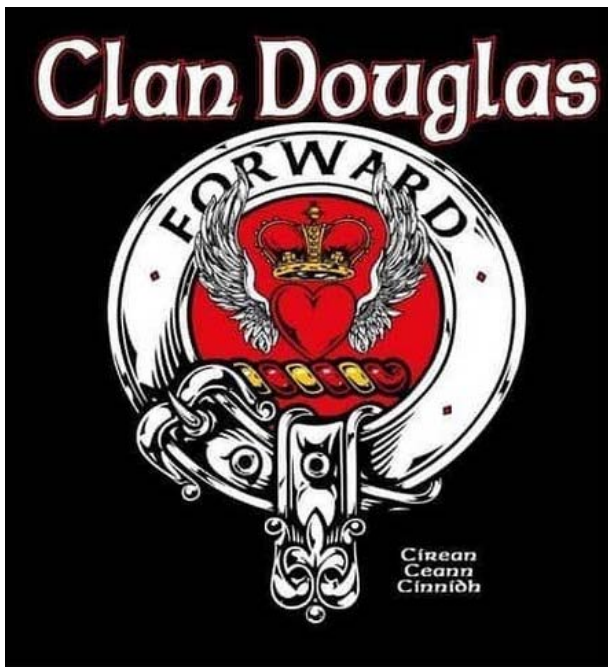
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/771893283583992>

the newsletter. We will continue to move in a direction we believe will be beneficial to all of our membership as health and safety are our top priority in keeping all in good spirits.

Thank you for the support and staying with this organization during these hard times. Stay healthy, stay safe.

Happy New Year! Slainte!

~ Sarah Rae
2022 SSI President, Newsletter Editor



END OF THE YEAR STATE OF THE SOCIETY ADDRESS
From 2021 SSI President Matt Douglass

My fellow Scots,
We are now in year 2 of a pandemic and all official in-person events since February of 2020 except this year's picnic, Irish Festival participation, and two kilt nights were cancelled. It has not been a great two years for the Scottish Society and the Scottish Foundation of Indianapolis. However, we are still financially sound, with ample funding for the resumption of all activities, thanks to the hard work of those who came before me. We have again had some board retirements, have replaced all open positions and have a complete board of able trustees elected for 2022 at

this time. Our membership numbers remain steady and the desire to celebrate all things Scottish remains high. Your board and volunteers have continued to meet each month virtually, and we have found alternative ways for our members to socialize and to celebrate things Scottish. We have met via Zoom and streaming on Facebook since September of 2020. Thanks to our whisky sponsor Arnie Lewin's creativity, we found a way to hold a remote Scotch tasting, with real Scotch and chocolate, which wound up being one of our most interesting tastings yet! As of this time, we know of no Covid transmissions via Society events. And, if conditions permit, we plan to try to resume in-person social meetings next year. In summary, the pandemic has slowed us down, but not stopped us. We have found other ways to meet, to enjoy each other's company, and to celebrate all things Scottish. We have the people, funds and plans in place to resume all Scottish Society and Society Foundation activities as soon as it is safe. Until then, please socially distance, wear a mask in public and hand in there. Thank you.

PLEASE WELCOME NEW SSI MEMBERS:

- No new members this month

NOTICES FROM THE BOARD

****MEMBERSHIP REVIEW****

To those who do not know or were not aware from updates listed near the end of last year, anyone who had a membership in good standings with SSI - your membership crossed over to 2021. No additional payment is needed at this time. If you are needing to pay for fees or are a new member joining, please make sure to pay for your dues. We are having a PANDEMIC SPECIAL for anyone wishing to join the SSI at this time. The fees currently are the following



- \$10.00 single/individual membership OR \$20.00 for family membership. This will be good until further notice. Note: We are checking and updating our membership records each month. Reach out to the board if you have any questions. Discussion for membership dues for 2022 are in talks now - will advise on this subject soon. Thanks!

****INDY ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING****

Get ready because the Indy RSCD are back having their Scottish Country dancing sessions - these sessions happen each Monday of the month at the Latvian Center. Per request of their leadership and fellow dancers, they are requesting that all dancers who attend must be fully vaccinated and must have their vaccination card for proof. There will be hand sanitizer available for all attendees. If you are sick or possibly under the weather, please do not come and stay at home. Masks are optional if you wish to wear them but they are not required.



2022 IN-PERSON MEETINGS - REQUIREMENTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

To all who have been waiting patiently for our organization to gather again - we are happy to announce that we will be resuming in-person meetings will start again sometime in 2022. The meetings will depend on the board's decision and we will be watching all updates in the media, statistics as a whole in making those decisions. The board has made some requirements and set regulations we will expect moving forward until we believe it will be safe to resume as normal.

- The board will need to see proof of

your vaccination card when you come to the meetings (this can be the physical card or a photo of the card). We will be checking for them at the door before you enter. Signs advising this will be at the door before you are checked in.

- If you have a religious or medical exemption in regards to not being vaccinated - we will have a form that needs to be filled out or you must provide a copy of your own form when arriving at check in - we will be asking and checking just like we would with the vaccination cards.
- All members, guests and/or any attendee must wear a mask during the entire meeting (unless you are eating or drinking).
- The meetings will be a "bring your own food/drink" situation. No food or drink is to be shared, unless you feel comfortable sharing with the people you sit with at the table. That will be at your discretion.
- There will be hand sanitizer and additional masks for everyone if needed. They will be provided at the tables and at the welcome table.
- If you as an individual are under the weather or feeling sick - we are requesting that you do not attend the meetings.

If you are not able to abide by these new updates or requests, please be aware the board may deny you entry to the meetings. Our main priority is making sure everyone who attends the meetings/events are healthy and safe moving forward. Progress is being made but it is not the time to bring guards down. If you have any additional suggestions, please reach out to the board and let us know. Again, in-person meetings are important to continue with our organization but we want to be smart about how to proceed at this time. Thank you.

DECEMBER
'21 VIRTUAL
MEETING
RECAP -
Scottish
Holiday



Traditions

The holidays are a time for family and friends to get together to enjoy wonderful moments. We all have different traditions and things we do to enjoy this festive time. In the short presentation given by SSI member, Barbara Rush, we learned some Scottish holidays, festivities and moments that are recognized by this country. Afterwards, the members of the board and guests on the Zoom call talked about their own traditions they do during the holidays. It was a relaxed meeting in celebrating everything Scottish and holidays cheer.

The Board would like to thank Barbara Rush for a wonderful and informative presentation about the holiday traditions. Also, thank you to all the members who attended the meeting who discussed their own holiday traditions.



Next Meeting - JANUARY '22 VIRTUAL MEETING

A new year, a new change for the presentation. Robert Burns and Burns Lite Night will not happen this year. We decided for a change - with the pandemic and with this meeting being virtual - it was time for something different. Instead, SSI members Dan and Jane Patton will be discussing the history of the Scottish holiday - Hogmanay and the festivities that surround this event.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 12th at 7:30pm for social hour and the presentation will begin promptly at 8:00pm. Please click [here](#) or [here](#) for the Zoom meeting.

HOW TO JOIN AN ONLINE ZOOM MEETING - PLEASE READ ALL NOTED!

****Option 1: ZOOM ~** You do not have to a Zoom account to participate/attend a meeting. You will be prompted to download the software after you click on the meeting link. To fully participate, you will need a computer with a camera and a microphone. You can also join by using a smartphone app or calling in to the telephone number in the invitation. If you are needing more information about joining a meeting of any kind on Zoom, [click here](#) to check out detailed instructions.

****Option 2: SOCIAL MEDIA / FACEBOOK ~** The meeting will be live in broadcast on the new Facebook group just for members of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. You can watch it while the meeting is going on or watch it after the meeting is over.



NOTE: ALL CURRENT MEMBERS in the SSI that have a membership, you will receive a link for the upcoming meeting. The link will be in an email with the invitation that will sent 24 hours before the Zoom meeting. Please note: You will not be allowed to share this link to others as we will be keeping record of how many members we have attending the meeting. If you have any questions

about this, please let us know. If you are not a current member or would like to invite a guest to join, please reply to the email with the newsletter so the link can be forwarded to you directly. Thank you.

SSI 2022 MEETINGS - WHAT IS COMING UP?

Note: Subjects/Topics are subject to change.

- January 2022: Hogmanay: The Scottish Holiday - History and Events
- February 2022: Whisky Tasting with Arnie Lewin
- March 2022: Scottish Country Dancing
- April 2022: History of the Titanic Scots - Part 2
- May 2022: Scottish Dress with Carter Keith

We are looking for topics or presentations to flush out the 2022 year. If you are interested in giving a presentation for the society, please notify a board member so the topic can be discussed. We will advise if the meeting will be online or in-person each month - so the topic could change at the last minute. Thank you!

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