

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello everyone! The new year has started and it has been one with many good things. We have been working on what is to come this year for the society - including returning to in-person meetings down the road. We know everyone is looking forward to 2022 to be a change of the society getting back to the normal. This editor is glad to say that will soon be a reality. Before this letter continues, an apology notice was sent out to our membership about a human error that took place. We received nothing but positive comments and support about the situation that occurred. The board is working behind the scenes to make sure our society is safe and our membership has that upmost trust with information that is obtained during various parts of the year.

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 the newsletter, even in additional email blasts. 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

For those who are wondering about the other events the SSI has during the year, those items are being reviewed at this time. We will announce any updates or additions once available.

Thank you for the support and staying with this organization during these hard times.

Learn How to Speak Scottish Gaelic:

am geimhridh

Winter Time



MEETING DETAILS: After careful review and unanimous vote by the board, the March 2022 meeting will be the first IN-PERSON MEETING. We will ask if you are a member to please do the donation of \$5.00 and guests will be \$7.00. Any guests coming must be aware of the requirements set for in-person meetings - please make sure it is passed along if you wish to have someone attend. If it is your first time coming to one of our meetings, no fee is owed.

We are working on the technology in case you are not able to attend or do not feel comfortable still of going to larger functions. We will have a Zoom link available. Keep an eye out for a email blast on this update.

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>

Stay healthy, stay safe. Slainte!

~ Sarah Rae
2022 SSI President, Newsletter Editor

PLEASE WELCOME NEW SSI MEMBERS:

- No new members this month

NOTICES FROM THE BOARD



MEMBERSHIP REVIEW - UPDATE

The board for 2022 has announced that we will be reinstating the renewal of the yearly dues for SSI memberships. We agreed that the time to come together in-person will be coming soon and this will be a driving focus to get all of us back together again. The renewal of the membership will also help keep this organization thriving with new interest and continuation. You can pay for your yearly membership online through the website or payments can be made in person with a form once we meet in person (keep an eye out through the social media, newsletter and email blasts on this matter).

INDY ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

Get ready because the Indy RSCD are back having their Scottish Country dancing sessions. The sessions have been happening on most Monday evenings since August 2021 at the Latvian Center. All levels of dancers are welcome. All dances are walked and practiced before music is added. 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. If you would like more information, please email the group at IndyRSCD@gmail.com.

SEEKING TREASURER IN-TRAINING

We have had some changes with some

plans regarding the SSI Board of Trustees. Dan Patton - our current treasurer - and his wife will not be moving to the east coast as originally planned at this time. However, Dan would like to train someone to be a treasurer possible in the next term for 2023 or even as a secondary. Anyone who is interested in learning about this position or even wanting to experience the tasks done as Treasurer, please reach out to the board or Dan Patton directly (indyscot.treasurer@gmail.com) as we would like to have a backup on the board.



REQUIREMENTS FOR IN-PERSON MEETINGS - STARTING MARCH 2022

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 very soon. The first in-person meeting will be on March 9th. Determination of if or when we will have the in-person 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.
- All members, guests and/or any attendee must wear a mask during the entire meeting - no exceptions 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 no buffet present at any of the meetings.

- 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 of any sort or feeling/currently sick - we are requesting that you do not attend the meeting. Please stay at home and get better.

Note: As of January 2022, the Board of Trustees have unanimously voted and have confirmed that we will not be allowing any type of exemptions (medical or religious). Vaccination cards must be presented or we will ask you to leave and not attend the meeting.

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.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

The SSI will be participating again this year for the official Indy St. Patrick's Day Celebration. We will be in the parade celebrating and promoting our organization in the downtown event. The parade and festivities for St. Patrick's Day will take place

on Thursday, March 17th at 11:30am. We will love to have members join the group for the parade. The location of the gathering and time will be given in the next newsletter and also in a separate email blast. At this time, SSI president Sarah Rae nor the SSI Vice President of Whisky Matt Douglass will not be able to attend this parade due to work obligations. If you would like to join the parade, please let the board know - SSI trustee Greg Bowers will add you to the list of attendees as he will be the head member for this event.



FEBRUARY
'22 VIRTUAL
MEETING
RECAP:
Whiskey

Entertainment with Tastings & Chocolate

This month is always a tradition for the SSI. It is always a great attendance and this year was no different. Last meeting was about whisky tasting with chocolate. We have a variety of tasters from the SSI membership to our fellow guests outside of the state who wanted to join. With the assistance of Arnie Lewin from Elite Beverage and the assistance of the SSI Vice President of Whisky Matthew Douglass, we had a virtual tasting this year. We tried four different Distiller's Editions - Glenkitchie, Talisker, Oban and Lagavulin. They were wonderful and even tasted good with some chocolate. For the attendees who did not participate in the tasting, some great history and whisky knowledge was presented.

The board would like to thank Arnie Lewin from Elite Beverages for providing the product. If you are interested in a form for ordering, please let the Board know as we have those to provide. Thank you to those who attended the meeting as whisky tasters and those who wanted to learn more about the whiskies in general. Thank you to the volunteers who delivered the whisky packages to the tasting participants during the cold weather - it is much appreciated.

Hope all had a great time divulging a dram or two of whisky.



Next Meeting - MARCH '22 IN-PERSON MEETING

We are meeting up for the first time since the pandemic hit us in 2020. The SSI is coming back together to celebrate. To start off the first in-person meeting - we will be doing some Scottish Country Dancing, which will be hosted by the Royal Scottish Dancers of Indianapolis. They will dance some demos and even would have some participation if so inclined. Now, if the dancers are not able to come or there are not enough to assist with the demos, then Dan & Jane Patton will be presenting a fun history of Scottish Country Dance(s). Regardless, it will be a lot of fun and seeing everyone since we went virtual will be wonderful in itself.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, March 9th at 7:00pm for social hour and the presentation will begin promptly at 8:00pm or sooner. **If you are not attending the in-person meeting, but would like to watch the presentation or join the action - 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 have 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.

- March 2022: **IN-PERSON**: Scottish Country Dancing with the Indianapolis RSCD / If there are not enough dancers: A fun history of Scottish Country Dance from Dan & Jane Patton
- April 2022: Scottish Dress with Carter Keith (in review at this time)
- May 2022: *To Be Determined*
- June 2022: History of the Titanic Scots - Part 2 from Debbie Lyle Owens
- July 2022: *To Be Determined*
- August 2022: SSI Summer Celebration Picnic on August 20th

We are looking for topics or presentations to flush out the 2022 year - looking for presenters for the months of May, July, September thru December. 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!