



This month's Minnesota Scottish news and events.



# Scottish News in Minnesota



## December 2016

Happy Holidays to all our friends!

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## EVENTS

### **December 3 | RSCDS Twin Cities 20th Annual Fàilte Ball**

"Fàilte" means welcome in Gaelic, and all Scottish dancers, beginners and experienced, are most welcome\*!

The Fàilte Ball is intended to be a gentle introduction to the ball scene for newer dancers, and a fun event for all. Enjoy a light refreshments, live music by Thistledown band, and dancing. New afternoon time and location (Howe School in south Minneapolis) this year. Details and registration at <http://www.rscds-twincities.org/failte.html>

\*PLEASE NOTE: Although we consider this event to be "beginner-friendly," we do strongly recommend that dancers have some previous exposure to Scottish country dancing (a few

classes at least) and familiarity with the terminology. Please contact us at info [at] rscds-twincities [dot] org if you have any questions about your ability to participate.

## **December 8 | Laura MacKenzie at the Merlins Rest Folk Club**

Laura MacKenzie will be a guest singer for the Merlins Rest Folk Club on Thursday, December 8th at 7:30 pm. Unaccompanied Scottish and Irish songs galore, including chorus songs! Colin Peters will be the second guest singer. Free and open to all.

Merlins Rest, 3601 East Lake Street, Minneapolis

## **December 10 | 2016 St. Andrew's Day Event**

As you know, St. Andrew's Day is celebrated in the Christian church on November 30 and the St. Andrew' Society of Minnesota has traditionally held a social event around that time to commemorate this important day for our patron saint who of course is also the patron saint of Scotland.

This year is no different. We have planned a cross-cultural event that we hope you will find appealing and want to attend. The date is Saturday, December 10. The event is a noon luncheon at the American Swedish Institute, followed by a tour of the holiday themed and decorated mansion that houses the Institute. We did this several years ago and it proved to be a very popular event and we hope you will join us for it once again.

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## **NEWS**

We are sad to share that two of our friends in the Scottish community passed away last week. Our thoughts are with their friends and families.

### **Denny Johnston**

Denny Johnston of Maple Plain, MN, age 74 passed on Nov. 25, 2016. He was preceded in death by his parents Ethel (Russinik) & Marvin Johnston. He leaves behind his wife Jackie of 53 years and three children: Dee Lorilee, Dennis William "Bill" Jr. and David Laurence (Puong) Johnston as well as 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. A Celebration of Life will be at the America Legion in Delano, MN on Hwy. 12, on Friday, Dec. 2, 2016 beginning at 6:00 pm and followed by a luncheon. In lieu of flowers the Dennis William Johnston

Memorial Fund has been set up at the Bank of Maple Plain, P.O. Box 279, Maple Plain, MN 55359 to assist Jackie with final expenses.

<http://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/167775/?fullname=dennis-william-denny-johnston>

## **Mike McClellan**

Passed 11/25/2016, age 79. Married 56 years to Audrey; father to Micheal Jr. and John McClellan. Full obit and memorial announcement to follow (via the Star Tribune).

<http://www.startribune.com/obituaries/detail/167757/?fullname=michael-mcclellan%2C-sr>

## **St. Andrew's Society Burns Night Silent Auction**

Once again, the St. Andrew's Society of Minnesota will have a silent auction fundraiser at its Burns Night dinner. If you have quality items of Scottish or Celtic interest to donate please contact Liz Michaelson at 952-994-8355 or [liz@uncommongatherings.com](mailto:liz@uncommongatherings.com). Pick up can be arranged if you have several items or ones of larger size. We prefer to have all items a week in advance of the January 28 gathering. Thanking you in advance for searching through your home for those items you no longer use or need.....the sporran you've not worn in years, the books you read once and shelved, jewelry that just sits in a box. Purge and help the SAS scholarship fund at the same time. Your donation of auction items is greatly appreciated.



Please verify details before attending events.

The SNIM is sponsored by the Scottish American Center. We welcome news from all variety of Celts. Please send news, announcements, questions and concerns to [scottishnewsinmn@gmail.com](mailto:scottishnewsinmn@gmail.com) Please note, editorial pieces may be subject to approval by the Scottish American Center board before posting.

Thank you!  
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