



# SCOTTISH SOCIETY OF TIDEWATER, INC.

## 2010 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

### CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES

#### **PRESIDENT - [CHOOSE 1]**

##### ***John McGlynn - President***

I was born and grew up in Scotland. My sisters and brother are all still in Scotland, and I try to get over there as often as possible. For those who know the area, we live in the Clyde Valley. The little towns of Mossend, Bellshill, Motherwell, Bothwell and Uddingston, are all within a stone's throw from each other and that's where I grew up and where my siblings and their children still live.

I went to the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow and got a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering. Then following the tradition of many Scotsmen, as a young man came to the Americas to help open up this fair land – only to find out it had been mostly done already – but I stayed on nevertheless.

Actually I was brought over to the USA by General Electric – who hired me out of school. GE survived that... While in Schenectady NY with GE they sent me to MBA school at RPI in upstate NY– and I survived that. I worked for GE in a number of locations, and before coming here to the Hampton Roads area, I was again based in Schenectady (for the 2nd time), this time at their Corporate R&D Center.

While in Schenectady I was also Treasurer of the Schenectady Museum, and Co-Chairperson of The Brown School, a great little private schools for kids, and my daughter, Andrea's, first school.

I eventually came to the Hampton Roads area for GE as Director of IT for their Television business that was once headquartered here. When GE elected to get out of the Television business – I liked this area so much that I decided to take off my running shoes, stay here and put down some roots.

Since then I did business and systems consulting work for a few years, initially for one of the big CPA/Consulting firms, most often with health care entities, then in 2006, with a couple of partners, I opened a Therapeutic Foster Care Agency with offices

in Virginia Beach. It's fun work and although I don't personally handle the clinical issues, it's incredibly rewarding.

I also love/hate renovating old properties and have done a few. That can keep anyone out of trouble. I live in Olde Towne Portsmouth – and love it.

Recently I dived into Scottish fiddle playing. This is now a passion...

I'm proud of my heritage, and I look forward to continuing serving the SST. This past year I served as SST Vice President. Thank you for reading this, and considering me for SST President at the upcoming election in March.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT - [CHOOSE 1]**

##### ***Tricia Young - Vice President***

Tricia is a life-long resident of Portsmouth, VA. She has been a licensed Property and Casualty insurance agent since 1986 and is currently employed as an Associate Agent with Mayo Insurance Agency in Virginia Beach, VA. Her daughters, Rachel and Katelyn, are both former competitive Highland dancers.

As a result of her love for all things Scottish and in an effort to learn more about and celebrate her Scottish ancestry, she joined the Scottish Society of Tidewater and has been an active member for about 13 years. Tricia was part of the team that constructed the original "Nessie" float and has worked at the Scottish Society of Tidewater information tent at the Williamsburg Scottish Festival and the Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival. She has served on the Program and Sunshine Committees as well as the Craft Guild. Tricia is co-chairing the Tartan Day Committee for 2010. She has served on the Board of Directors since 2006.

In addition to her work on behalf of the Scottish Society of Tidewater, Tricia is the Vice President of the 2010

Williamsburg Scottish Festival as well as their Communications Chairman.

She is anxious to continue serving the Scottish Society of Tidewater and to being a voice for the general membership.

She is affiliated with Clan Duncan.

## **TREASURER – [CHOOSE 1]**

### ***Jeanne Rider for Treasurer*** (Incumbent)

I am an Army brat, and a retired Navy wife. As such I have lived all over the United States and in Japan. I have also visited Okinawa, England, Ireland, Canada, Mexico and of course Scotland. Even though Bob and I moved 18 times in the first 14 years of our marriage, we have managed to remain in our home in Virginia Beach since we built it in 1983. There are many other areas in the United States and the world that we enjoy, but this has become – HOME, something unique for both of us.

I have worked in accounting for over 20 years, dealing with payroll, general ledger, accounts payables and receivables, payroll taxes, as well as personal income taxes. I am the Human Resources Coordinator and Payroll Manager for an architecture firm in downtown Norfolk. I concentrate much of my time in the Human Resources field where I received my National Certification as a Professional in Human Resources (PHR) several years ago. With these many hats, I must deal on a daily basis with the many and varied laws in both the Accounting/Payroll and Human Resource fields.

A couple of years ago, I started my own business, Pixie Treasures, in which I make and sell custom-made jewelry, especially Celtic necklaces, earrings, bracelets, and watches, as well as many varied Celtic and festival gift items. I have now enlisted my husband, Bob, into the business, and we have added matted and/or framed photographs that we both took in Scotland and Ireland to our inventory. Per the business name, we have included fantasy items such as Pixie Dust, Pixie Wands, fairy dolls and figurines, dragons, etc. to our merchandise. My very first festival as a Crafter/Vendor was our own home festival, the Williamsburg Scottish Games and Celtic Festival. We started there in Sept 2007 with a 10' x 10'tent. This past October we used our brand new 20' x 20' tent for the first time, so Pixie Treasures has really grown in

the past two years, thanks in part to SST members support.

Since joining the SST almost six years ago, my husband, Bob, and I have made many new and dear friends, and we have really enjoyed becoming active members of the Society. Sharing festivals, Ceilidh dancing, parades and Scottish, Irish, or Celtic events with other SST members makes these events even more fun and rewarding.

I wished to contribute to the Society in a more meaningful manner; thus I ran for Treasurer in 2006. Because of my background in bookkeeping and accounting, this seemed the appropriate position in which to utilize my talents and education. In addition I was the Tartan Day Chairman for 2005, 2006, and 2007, but now must concentrate this energy on my blooming business.

I am looking forward to another great year with all of my friends - the members of the SST.

## **SECRETARY – [CHOOSE 1]**

### ***Lucy Withington for Secretary***

I have lived in the Hampton Roads area for the past 19 1/2 years, living the first 10 in Portsmouth and now in Virginia Beach. I have been a teacher with the Portsmouth Public School system since moving to the area in August of 1990. I joined the SST in October of 2008, but have always been interested in my Scottish roots. I played the bagpipes in my high school's marching band, and currently I am in my second year of Scottish Gaelic. My previous board experience comes from my years as a member of a community service organization in Virginia Beach. I look forward to getting more involved with the SST.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS – [CHOOSE 3]**

### ***Tom Crouch for Director***

Tom Crouch is a member in good standing with the SST where he previously served on the Board of Directors. Tom is also a member of the Tidewater Irish American Society where he serves as their official bagpiper and as a member of their Honor Guard. Tom is credited with founding the Newport News Police Pipes & Drums and currently serves as it's President. Under Tom's guidance the pipe band gained national and international fame when the band was chosen as

the 2008 Honored band for Police Week 2008. The band was invited by the Garda Scionncha to perform in Ireland at memorial services for their fallen law enforcement officers. The band has also been invited by the Newport Police Pipes & Drums from Newport, Wales, to participate in memorial services there as well.

Tom is a member of the local Celtic music trio, Glasgow Kiss. Tom is married to Lynette Gilmour Crouch and has two wonderful daughters with her, Eadlyn and Eilidh.

### ***Randy Dedrickson for Director***

Randy Dedrickson hails from South Mills, North Carolina and has over 13 years experience within the Celtic community. Randy is an Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance system Subject Matter Expert for US Fleet Forces Command and is a retired US Naval Officer. He has a BS in PS w Engineering Emphasis and a MS in Information System. His Celtic and community service is as follows:

- President Williamsburg Scottish Festival 2009 - Present
- Vice President Business, Williamsburg Scottish Festival 2008 - 2009
- Vice President Operations Williamsburg Scottish Festival 2007 - 2006. Presented with 2006 Award for most significant work and contributions to festival preparations and operations. Williamsburg, VA
- Volunteer Coordinator, Williamsburg Scottish Festival 2005
- Board Member, Scottish Society of Tidewater 2003 - 2004
- Clan Hamilton and Clan Bell Maryland State Commissioner 1998 – 2002
- Founding member PENNMAR Scottish Colour Guard Towson, MD 1997 - 2001
- FSA Scot 2004 – Present
- Member Clan Bell 1997 - present
- Life Member Clan Hamilton
- Registrar, Monitor & Merrimac Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, KCTJ 2009 - present
- Founding member and President Seven Cities MINI Car club. Led Clubs first donations to Special Warfare Foundation, Law Enforcement Memorial, and Children's Hospital Kings Daughter Norfolk, VA. Set Guinness World Record for Most MINI Coopers in a Parade.
- Ordained Chaplain with World Christianity Ministries and Church of Spiritual Humanism

- Lay Reader Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Norfolk, VA
- Commander American Legion Post 403 Glen Rock PA. Led post toward first ever awarding of community Law Enforcement Officer of the Year, hosting of disabled veterans from local VA Hospital, and education of local grade school on American Flag, veterans, and Memorial Day
- President of the US Forces Azores Catholic Parish Council. Organized weekly runs to Azorean Orphanages, and Nursing Homes. Organized monthly Spaghetti Dinners for Azorean homeless. Terceira Island Azores
- Committee chairman for Holy Trinity Catholic Church food drives for inner city Baltimore Homeless shelters. Glen Burnie MD
- USS John L. Hall Project Hand Clasp Officer. Led ship's major renovation of Costa Rican Orphanages and Grade Schools and Honduran Hospitals. Central America
- Life member of Save the Montanyard People.. Assisted with annual Memorial Day Ceremonies and clothing donations. Ashville, NC
- Member Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, SMOTJ, Knight Commandeur

Randy's desire to run for a SST board position is simply to provide SST with a resource to draw on from his organizational experience and years of experience within the Celtic community and community at large. His other goal is to provide SST with a direct voice to WSF for suggestions and future festival planning.

### ***George Phillips for Director*** *(incumbent)*

I was born June 17, 1938 in Lynchburg, VA. I married Brenda Wallace Nichols in 1960. We have two children, James Michael Phillips and Heather Anne Phillips.

I am an Air Force veteran (1958-1964), and received a B.S. and M.B.A. from the University of Virginia. I have been employed by Riverside Health System since 1982. Prior to that I worked for the University of Virginia Medical Center. My responsibilities with Riverside have included serving as administrator of several facilities, and since 1989, responsibility for governmental relations for the System.

I was raised for much of my life by my grandparents who emigrated from Scotland in the 1930s. My grandfather was born in Ardolach, my grandmother born in New Spynie (Elgin), and my father was born in

Elgin. At the time of emigration, my family was living in Glenbuchat (near Kildrummy). My family were members of both Clan Chattan (grandfather's side), and Clan Arthur (grandmother's side). Both had ancestors who fought at Culloden for Prince Charlie. I am currently a member of Clan Arthur and Clan MacPherson.

My wife's ancestors came from Lanarkshire (MacNeacail clan). My wife shares my deep interest in Scotland and Scottish culture. My interests include Scottish history and genealogy. I am currently studying Scottish Gaelic.

I have served on a number of boards over the past 40 years, from civic and professional organizations to State agency boards. From this experience, I have an appreciation of the responsibilities of boards and their function.

### ***Bob Rider for Director***

Born in Boulder, CO, Bob Rider grew up there and in central North Carolina, within a few miles of where one of his Scottish ancestors was born in the 1600s.

Bob served 26 years in the U.S. Navy and retired in 1992. During his Navy career, he deployed on submarines from Holy Loch, Scotland and years later returned for several short visits where he became even more fascinated with the Scottish countryside, the scenery and the history, as well as with the Scottish people. Along with his wife, Jeanne, Bob recently returned to Scotland, where his love of the country and the people flowered anew.

Prompted by the love of all things Scottish, Bob and Jeanne joined the SST in 2003. Bob enjoys the fellowship with others who share a common Scottish heritage, as well as the educational and entertaining programs the Society offers. His goals include sharing this as much as possible with the local community as a whole.