

## **The Saint Andrew's Society of Williamsburg**

### **Burn's Nicht 2016**

Burns Nicht 2016 was held at The Fort Magruder Hotel and Conference Center on January 31 and was a rousing success with about 80 attendees, great music and excellent cuisine. Mr. Douglas Boller, a true Glaswegian, did a remarkable job as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

Our Scot of Year, Mrs. Kathy Kasley, lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance and then the Reverend Michael Thompson gave the invocation and remembered the Flowers of the Forest. Retiring President Duncan McIver greeted everyone and presented the President's medal and staff to the newly elected President, Sherri Elmore. Sherri warmly thanked Duncan for his wonderful leadership during the past year and then recognized new members present.

The Selkirk Grace was recited and dinner began with traditional Cock-a-Leekie soup while Mr. David Gardner serenaded the gathering with award winning Scottish fiddle music. We were privileged to learn fascinating background behind the tunes throughout the evening. Mr. Douglas Boller gave the ode to the haggis, toasted it, and dismembered the creature in fine fashion.

Haggis wi' neeps and' tatties was followed by excellently prepared entrée. Williamsburg Pipes and Drums then got everyone's blood stirring with a fine selection of beloved tunes. Pipe Major Lynn Newcomer was rewarded with some 'pay the piper' scotch.

Mr. Robert Maccubbin then spoke on the Immortal Memory and gave us a clear and insightful view of the remarkable Robert Burns. Soloist, Ms. Sarah Katherine Taylor, delighted everyone by singing two of Burns' songs during the evening. A series of toasts followed, and then Mr. Skip Yohe and Mrs. Holly Yohe gave rousing toasts to the lassies and the ladies, focusing on the amazing but hilariously true psychological differences between the sexes.

Mr. Mott Robertson and Mr. Doug Burns enthusiastically recited two of Burns' poems to delight of all present. The raffle and silent auction followed and the evening ended with a farewell from the President. Everyone joined hands encircling the room and sang a spirited verse of 'Auld Lang Syne.'