## Leslie Alexander Strachan

I was born in Kilmarnock, Ayrshire, Scotland near the birthplace of Robert Burns and grew up in the same countryside that he knew so well. Like all Scottish children I was introduced to the works of Burns at a very early age and all through school. I literally learned my first poem at the knees of my mother, an actress, who insisted I learn and recite properly. My father was a great one for quoting Burns and telling wonderful Burns "tales"

I joined the British Army when I was fifteen and served almost seven years, Burns may not have been in the forefront of my life during those times as I pursued other interests, but he was never far away.

I continued to read and study the works and life of the Bard and started giving talks, Immortal Memories and "performing" recitations to groups and Scottish Societies in the early 80's and have continued on with a lifelong love of the Poet.

I moved to the United States and married my wife Nancy in 1973, we have lived in Bedford Virginia in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains since 1974. We have run our own business for over 30 years. I have been an individual member of the RBWF, Robert Burns World Federation, since 1994 and the Robert Burns Association of North America RBANA since 1999

I served as USA Director of the Robert Burns World Federation, RBWF, for eleven years and served on the board as a USA director to the Robert Burns Association of North America, RBANA, for over ten years.

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