



The History of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis (1983-2025)

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot

Past Presidents of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis



This photo includes the first six Presidents who served during the first ten years of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. Pictured left to right are Founder and President Emeritus Carter C. Keith (1984-88), Thomas C. Milton (1989-90), Marsha Smith Priest (1995), Carson C. Smith (1991-92 and 2000-04), Lee E. Cloe (1993), and Louis D. Shepherd (1994).

Author's Foreward

The History of the Scottish of Indianapolis is, like the Society itself, a work in progress, and it is my intention to continue to expand, revise and update our history annually. George Orwell, author of *Animal Farm* and *1984*, wrote that, "Those who control the present control the past, and those who control the past control the future." And, although it has been suggested that I remove certain names from our records, my goal has been to provide an objective history of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot
Past President (1991-92 and 2000-04)
Scottish Society of Indianapolis

The Founding of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis

1983

Following his appointment to the office of Convener for the State of Indiana for Clan Keith Society USA, on October 10, 1983, Carter Carlisle Keith filed of an official letter of intent on with the Indiana Secretary of State on December 1, 1983, establishing the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, to become effective on December 31, 1983.

1984

With the enthusiastic encouragement of the International Center of Indianapolis, representatives of Clans Campbell (Anna Gale Dortch), Grant (Ann Grant Miller), and Lamont (Charli Keith Turner), and organizational assistance from G. Edward (Ned) Buxton, III, of the Clan Keith Society USA, the first Board meeting was convened on Monday, April 23, 1984, at the home of Carter Keith at 4705 North Broadway.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was incorporated as a not-for-profit on August 23, 1984. To fill out the first Board of Trustees, Carter Keith relied heavily upon the members of his own family. His first Vice President was his twin brother, Neal Keith. His first Secretary was Charli Keith Turner. His first Treasurer was his sister-in-law Teresa Keith. The balance of the Board of Trustees included his brother, Teresa's husband, Todd Keith, and Carter's mother, Marjorie Workman Keith.

The Society made its first appearance at the 9th Annual International Festival, presented by the International Center of Indianapolis, at the Indiana Convention Center on the weekend of October 20, 1984, during which the Society was awarded Second Place honors for Education. It was here that Carter and I had our first face-to-face meeting, following an earlier phone conversation, suggested by Scott Hosier Jr, at a meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution, which featured a presentation by John (Scotty) Selch, on genealogical research, using the Periodicals Section of the Indiana State Library.

1985

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was granted membership in the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations (COSCA) on February 21, 1985. As the result of the Society's rapid growth, the monthly meetings of the SSI were moved from the International Center of Indianapolis to the Clubhouse of Westlake Arms Apartments, home of Todd and Teresa Keith. The first meeting at this new location was convened on Wednesday, March 13, 1985.

Meetings of the General Membership were called to order at 7:00 PM on the second Wednesday of each month. The Board of Trustees met in the home of President Carter Keith at 4705 North Broadway.

In May of 1985, Carter Keith convened an impromptu organizational meeting, while we were loading furniture onto a van, at the home of Charli Keith Turner and her daughter, DeAnna Lynn

Turner, who were moving to Shellman, Georgia. I was asked to serve as Vice President and the Society's first Newsletter Editor. The first issue, Volume I, Number 1, of *The Thistle* was printed in June of 1985.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis had grown from an initial gathering of nine (9) individuals, to include over sixty (60) memberships, thirty (30) of which were family memberships. The Society continued to develop a reservoir of information concerning Scottish Clans, genealogical research, music, tartans and, of course, Scotland. A small, but growing, Society library was stored at the home of the President.

The First Annual Founders Day Dinner and Ceilidh took place at the Clubhouse of Westlake Arms on Wednesday, November 13, 1985. The event was organized by Chairman Ann Grant Miller, decorations were supplied by Barbara (Bobbi) Murchie and Virginia (Ginny) Thompson, entertainment was provided by Piper Roderick A. (Roddy) MacDonald (the Elder), posters were created by Mrs. Stephen (Jacque) Andrews, the layout for the program, flyer, and tickets were provided by Robert (Bob) Miller, ticket sales were supervised by John Patrick, tables and chairs were put in place by William D. (Bill) Murchie, and the first Society election was directed by Chairman Lee Cloe.

The Society's first election yielded the following results: President Carter C. Keith, Vice President Carson C. Smith, Secretary John J. Patrick, Treasurer Jacque Andrews, ICI Liaison Brian J. McCall, Public Relations Officer Ann Grant Miller, and Reserve Duty Officer Louis D. Shepherd.

In addition to founding the Scottish Society of Indianapolis, Carter Keith drafted the first set of bylaws, designed the Society logo, created the newsletter, and called it *The Thistle*, and designed the Society flag and had it assembled. Much of what he did for the formation of the Society was hammered out on an IBM Selectric typewriter, under a single light bulb, at a small desk in the attic of his home at 4705 North Broadway.

Carter went on to rise through the ranks of the Clan Keith Society USA and ultimately became its National President for four (4) years. His Keith ancestors fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill, consequently, he was also a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, in which he served as a member of the Color Guard for two (2) years. He has also assumed the office of Camp Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans.

He and his wife, Judy, celebrated their 48th Wedding Anniversary on April 23, 2025. They have two (2) children, Laura and Douglas, son-in-law, Russ Williams, granddaughter, Elly. Carter completed a thirty-three (33) year career in government as Manager of Federal Aid Programming for streets, roads, and bridges. It was, in fact, Carter Keith who approved funding for the Monon Trail, where Patty and I met in 2000. He was involved in Scouting for twenty-five (25) years and serves as the Public Affairs Officer for District 8 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

The Board of Trustees of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis

1985 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	John J. Patrick
Treasurer	Teresa D. Keith
Trustee	Brian J. McCall
Trustee	Ann Grant Miller
Trustee	Gregory W. Graham
Trustee	Neal H. Keith

1986 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	John J. Patrick
Treasurer	Jacque Andrews
Trustee	Brian J. McCall
Trustee	Ann Grant Miller
Trustee	Louis D. Shepherd

1987 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	Barbara Murchie
Treasurer	Jacque Andrews
Trustee	Wallace K. Aiken
Trustee	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	Thomas H. Thompson

1988 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	Barbara Murchie
Treasurer	Jacque Andrews
Trustee	Stephen K. Andrews
Trustee	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	Thomas H. Thompson

1989 Board of Trustees

President	Thomas C. Milton
Vice Pres	Stephen K. Andrews
Secretary	Lynn Allyn Young
Treasurer	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	Lee E. Cloe
Trustee	Donald M. McMillan
Trustee	Thomas H. Thompson

1990 Board of Trustees

President	Thomas C. Milton
Vice Pres	Carson C. Smith
Secretary	Lynn Allyn Young
Treasurer	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	Stephen K. Andrews
Trustee	Lee E. Cloe
Trustee	James Lamb
Trustee	Jeffrey B. Mills

1991 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Lee E. Cloe
Secretary	Jerry G. Elliot
Treasurer	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	James Lamb
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Marsha Smith Priest
Trustee	Michael J. Stevens

1992 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Lee E. Cloe
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	James R. Campbell
Trustee	James Lamb
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Michael J. Stevens

1993 Board of Trustees

President	Lee E. Cloe
Vice Pres	Louis D. Shepherd
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Louis D. Shepherd
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	James Lamb
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Michael J. Stevens

1994 Board of Trustees

President	Louis D. Shepherd
Vice Pres	Marsha Smith Priest
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	John L. Porteous, Jr.
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich

1995 Board of Trustees

President	Marsha Smith Priest
Vice Pres	Frederick B. Dundas
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Bill McKnight
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Mary Ann Steiner

1996 Board of Trustees

President	Frederick B. Dundas
	Lee E. Cloe
Vice Pres	Bill McKnight
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Carter C. Keith
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Marsha Van Camp

1997 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Marsha Van Camp
Trustee	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Elizabeth A. Hague
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich

1998 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich
Trustee	Louis D. Shepherd

1999 Board of Trustees

President	Diana Stevens
Vice Pres	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jeanne B. Blake
Trustee	Dean C. McKean
Trustee	Mary Ann Pavlovich

2000 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Jean McDonald
Trustee	Dean C. McKean
Trustee	Donna Stogsdill

2001 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Rebecca Bilbrey
Trustee	Janet A. Nichols
Trustee	Robert J. Pate

2002 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Lee E. Cloe
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Edward S. Adams
Trustee	Nancy L. Foxworthy
Trustee	Mary E. Mahoney

2003 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Judith P. Bastin
Secretary	Nancy L. Foxworthy
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Edward S. Adams
Trustee	Jack T. Davidson
Trustee	Mary E. Mahoney

2004 Board of Trustees

President	Carson C. Smith
Vice Pres	Jack T. Davidson
Secretary	Nancy L. Foxworthy
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Edward S. Adams
Trustee	Judith P. Bastin
Trustee	Gordon H. Inglis

2005 Board of Trustees

President	Jack T. Davidson
Vice Pres	Gordon H. Inglis
Secretary	Ronald L. Walker
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Edward S. Adams
Trustee	Judith P. Bastin
Trustee	John D. Dockery, II
Trustee	George R. McMath

2006 Board of Trustees

President	Gordon H. Inglis
Vice Pres	Edward S. Adams
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Jack T. Davidson
Trustee	John D. Dockery, II
Trustee	George R. McMath
Trustee	Ronald L. Walker

2007 Board of Trustees

President	Gordon H. Inglis
Vice Pres	Edward S. Adams
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	John D. Dockery, II
Trustee	Jack T. Davidson
Trustee	Rebekah Lawson
Trustee	Ronald L. Walker

2008 Board of Trustees

President	Gordon H. Inglis
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	John D. Dockery, II
Trustee	Gary L. Davidson
Trustee	Jack T. Davidson
Trustee	Rebecca McClure
Trustee	Ronald L. Walker

2009 Board of Trustees

President	Gary L. Davidson
Vice Pres	Matthew C. Douglass
Secretary	Judith P. Bastin
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Alexandra Douglass
Trustee	Rebekah Lawson
Trustee	Kenneth L. Morgan

2010 Board of Trustees

President	Gary L. Davidson
Vice Pres	Matthew C. Douglass
Secretary	Gregory A. Bowers
Treasurer	Ronald L. Elliott
Trustee	Mark G. Lawson
Trustee	Rebekah Lawson
Trustee	Kenneth L. Morgan

2011 Board of Trustees

President	Gary L. Davidson
Vice Pres	Gregory A. Bowers
Vice Pres	Rebekah Lawson
Secretary	Walter Sherman
Treasurer	Ronald L. Elliott
Trustee	Mark G. Lawson
Trustee	Kenneth L. Morgan

2012 Board of Trustees

President	Rebekah Lawson
	Mark G. Lawson
Vice Pres	Gregory A. Bowers
Secretary	Terry Miller
Treasurer	Ronald L. Elliott
Trustee	Robin P. Jarrett
Trustee	Mark G. Lawson
Trustee	Kenneth L. Morgan

2013 Board of Trustees

President	Mark G. Lawson
Vice Pres	Gregory A. Bowers
Secretary	Elisabeth Hedges
Treasurer	Ronald L. Elliott
Trustee	Robin P. Jarrett
Trustee	Mack L. Hunter
Trustee	Kenneth L. Morgan

2014 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Carson C. Smith
Trustee	Andrew E. Thompson

2015 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Carson C. Smith
Trustee	Andrew E. Thompson

2016 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Carson C. Smith
Trustee	Andrew E. Thompson

2017 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Matthew C. Douglass
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Andrew E. Thompson

2018 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Matthew C. Douglass
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Kristy Byers Stewart
Trustee	Andrew E. Thompson

2019 Board of Trustees

President	Robin P. Jarrett
Secretary	Elisabeth A. Hedges
Treasurer	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Karen Couch
Trustee	Sarah Rae
Trustee	Michael E. Smith
Trustee	Thomas E. Wallace

2020 Board of Trustees

President	Matthew C. Douglass
Secretary	Karen Couch
Treasurer	Michael F. Kilgore
	Dan C. Patton
Trustee	Kathy Hohman
Trustee	Pat Kilgore
Trustee	Robert McKim
Trustee	Sarah Rae
Trustee	Barbara Rush
Trustee	Thomas E. Wallace

2021 Board of Trustees

President	Matthew C. Douglass
Secretary	Karen Couch
Treasurer	Dan C. Patton
Trustee	Kathy Hohman
Trustee	Sarah Rae
Trustee	Barbara Rush
Trustee	Thomas E. Wallace

2022 Board of Trustees

President	Sarah Rae
Secretary	Paula Hardesty
Treasurer	Dan C. Patton
Trustee	Gregory A. Bowers
Trustee	Kathy Hohman
Trustee	Mark G. Lawson
Trustee	Thomas E. Wallace

2023 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Paula Hardesty
Treasurer	Dan C. Patton
	Risa Stockton
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Linda Cassady
Trustee	Kathy Hohman
Trustee	Sarah Rae

2024 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Linda Cassady
Treasurer	Risa Stockton
Trustee	Gregory A. Bowers
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Samuel J. Lawson
Trustee	Sarah Rae

2025 Board of Trustees

President	Carter C. Keith
Secretary	Linda Cassady
Treasurer	Risa Stockton
Trustee	Gregory A. Bowers
Trustee	Paula Hardesty
	Matthew C. Douglass
Trustee	Armand C. Hayes
Trustee	Steven Johnson
Trustee	Sarah Rae

Officers of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Presidents

1984-88 Carter C. Keith
1989-90 Thomas C. Milton
1991-92 Carson C. Smith
1993 Lee E. Cloe
1994 Louis D. Shepherd
1995 Marsha Smith Priest
1996 Frederick B. Dundas (Died 02/02/96)
1996 Lee E. Cloe (Interim)
1997-99 Diana Stevens
2000-04 Carson C. Smith
2005 Jack T. Davidson
2006-08 Gordon H. Inglis
2009-11 Gary L. Davidson
2012 Rebekah Lawson
2012-13 Mark G. Lawson
2014-19 Robin P. Jarrett
2020-21 Matthew C. Douglass
2022 Sarah Rae
2023-25 Carter C. Keith

Secretaries

1986 John J. Patrick
1987-88 Barbara Murchie
1987-90 Lynn Allyn Young
1991 Jerry G. Elliot
1992-98 Lee E. Cloe
1999 Judith P. Bastin
2000-02 Lee E. Cloe
2003-04 Nancy L. Foxworthy
2005 Ronald L. Walker
2006-09 Judith P. Bastin
2010 Gregory A. Bowers
2011 Walter Sherman
2012 Terry Miller
2013-19 Elisabeth A. Hedges
2020-21 Karen Couch
2022-23 Paula Hardesty
2024-25 Linda Cassady

Vice Presidents

1985-88 Carson C. Smith
1989 Stephen K. Andrews
1990 Carson C. Smith
1991-92 Lee E. Cloe
1993 Louis D. Shepherd
1994 Marsha Smith Priest
1995 Frederick B. Dundas
1996 Bill McKnight
1997-99 Carter C. Keith
2000-03 Judith P. Bastin
2004 Jack T. Davidson
2005 Gordon H. Inglis
2006-07 Edward S. Adams
2009-10 Matthew C. Douglass
2011-13 Gregory A. Bowers
2024-25 Armand C Hayes

Treasurers

1986-88 Jacque Andrews
1989-93 Louis D. Shepherd
1994 John L. Porteous
1995-96 Elizabeth A. Hague
1997 Marsha Van Camp
1998-00 Rebecca Bilbrey
2001-06 Kristy Byers Stewart
2007-08 John D. Dockery, II
2008-09 Steven Johnson
2010-13 Ronald L. Elliott
2014-19 Steven Johnson
2020 Michael F. Kilgore
2020-23 Dan C. Patton
2023-25 Risa Stockton

Newsletter Editors

1985-86 Carson C. Smith
1986-87 Walter Buchanan
1987-90 Lynn Allyn Young
1990-92 Carson C. Smith
1993-99 Lee E. Cloe
1999 Carter C. Keith
2000-02 Rebecca Bilbrey
2002-05 Judith P. Bastin
2005-08 Ronald L. Walker
2009-10 Matthew C. Douglass
2011-13 Gregory A. Bowers
2014-16 Armand C. Hayes
2017-18 Matthew C. Douglass
2019-25 Sarah Rae
2025 Armand C. Hayes

NCI Liaison Officers

1986-88 Brian J. McCall
1989 Carson C. Smith
1989-96 Michael and Diana Stevens
1997-01 Rebecca Bilbrey
2001-03 Mary E. Mahoney
2003-04 Carson C. Smith
2004 John E. Trotter
2005 George R. McMath, Jr.
2006-14 Carol Atherton Clarkson
2015-19 Carson C. Smith
2020-22 Thomas E. Wallace
2025 Carter C. Keith

Honorary Titles Conferred by the Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Founder and President Emeritus
Carter C. Keith

Honorary Life Member
G. Edward (Ned) Buxton, III

Trustee Emeritus
Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson

Secretary Emeritus
Maj. Lee E. Cloe, D. Ed., USAF (Ret.)
Elisabeth A. Hedges

Treasurer Emeritus
Steven Johnson

Honorary Life Members
Dr. Peter and Wendy Hylton
Kenneth Morgan

Meeting Places of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis

May 1984 to February 1985
International Center of Indianapolis
200 W. 49th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208-3412
317-686-3850 Phone

September 1987 to March 1989
Marcy Village Apartments
4561 Marcy Ln.
Indianapolis, IN 46205-2044
317-259-7774 Phone

March 1996
Knights of Columbus
1040 N. Post Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46219-4222
317-897-1577 Phone

January 2002
St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church
Rectory Basement
4217 Central Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1896
317-283-5508 Phone

April 2002 to August 2002
All Souls Unitarian Church
5805 E. 56th St.
Indianapolis, IN 46226-1526
317-545-6005 Phone

November 2003 to December 2003
Church of St. Edward the Confessor
6361 N. Keystone Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46220-2156
317-253-3949 Phone

January 2007 to Present
The Latvian Community Center
1008 W. 64th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260-4458
317-255-0992 Phone

March 1985 to August 1987
Westlake Arms Apartments
6000 W. Lake Dr.
Indianapolis, IN 46224-7980
317-248-0666 Phone

April 1989 to February 1996
Trinity Episcopal Church
3243 N. Meridian St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208-4677
317-926-1346 Phone

April 1996 to December 2001
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
10 W. 61st St.
Indianapolis, IN 46208-1594
317-253-1277 Phone

February 2002
St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church
Athletic Complex
500 E. 42nd St.
Indianapolis, IN 46205-1897
317-283-5508 Phone

September 2002 to October 2003
Indianapolis Firefighters Union Hall
748 Massachusetts Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-1609
317-262-5161 Phone

January 2004 to December 2006
Robert E. Sterrett Senior Center
8950 Otis Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46216-1033
317-549-4815 Phone

The Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games & Festival

1st Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 9, 2010
Latvian Community Center
Chairman Gary L. Davidson

3rd Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 13, 2012
German Park
Gary L. Davidson and Gregory A. Bowers

5th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 11, 2014
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

7th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 8, 2016
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

9th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 13, 2018
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 10, 2020
[Games Canceled]

Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 8, 2022
[Games Canceled]

12th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 12, 2024
Marion County Fairgrounds
Gregory A. Bowers

2nd Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 8, 2011
Latvian Community Center
Chairman Gary L. Davidson

4th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 11, 2013
German Park
Gary L. Davidson and Gregory A. Bowers

6th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 10, 2015
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

8th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 14, 2017
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

10th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 12, 2019
German Park
Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett

Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 9, 2021
[Games Canceled]

11th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, September 30, 2023
Marion County Fairgrounds
Gregory A. Bowers and Rebekah Lawson

13th Annual Indianapolis Scottish Games
Saturday, October 11, 2025
Marion County Fairgrounds
Gregory A. Bowers and Lauren McNabb

Recipients of the Title of Knight of the Realm or Lady of the Realm

2011 Mayor Gregory A. Ballard
2012 Andris P. Berzins
2013 Sherriff John R. Layton
2014 Mark G. Lawson
2015 Mary E. Thompson
2016 Elisabeth Hedges
2017 Varis Grapis
2018 Robin P. Jarrett
2019 Joseph M. Ketterman
Mayor Joseph H. Hogsett
2020 [Games Canceled]
2021 [Games Canceled]
2022 [Games Canceled]
2023 Gregory A. Bowers
2024 Kathy Hohman

Recipients of the Order of the Unicorn for Contributions by Non-Members

2016 Eric Jones
2017 Doug Hardwick
2018 Arnie Lewin
2019 Paula Sue Jarrett
Daniel (Ned) Day
2020 [Games Canceled]
2021 Samuel and Rebekah Lawson
2022 [Games Canceled]
2023 [Award Not Presented]

Flowers of the Forest

1989

Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson

1993

Barbara (Bobbi) Murchie

James Lamb

1996

Andy Thompson

Frederick B. Dundas

1997

Marjorie Workman Keith

2002

Lewis E. Forbes

2003

Carl R. Dortch

Mary Stewart

Liz Johnson

2007

Roderick D. MacDonald (Younger)

2008

Virginia (Ginny) Thompson

2009

Scott F. Hosier, Jr.

George R. McMath, Jr.

Anna Gale Dortch

2010

Louis D. Shepherd

George E. Vickery, III

2012

Gordon H. Inglis

2013

Helen Nugent

Neal H. Keith

William D. (Bill) Murchie

Gloria Bulger

2014

Ann Grant Miller

2015

Wallace K. (Wally) Aiken, Jr.

Dr. Wallace Gordon Diehl

David L. Hager

2016

Lee E. Cloe

Bennett F. Lynch

2018

Lola Thompson

2019

Carol Atherton Clarkson

Roderick A. MacDonald (Elder)

Donna Mae Lawson

Gary L. BraVard

Pershing Edwin (P.E.) MacAllister

Mary Ann Innes Pavlovich

2020

Ronald L. Elliott

2021

Jerry G. Elliot

2023

Gene R. Clevinger

Michael J. Stevens

Ivan D. Lancaster

2024

Georgeanne McMath

Lori Lynn Jarrett Gunn

Donald L. St. Clair

Jeanne B. Blake

2025

Marg Herder

No Report on the 12th Annual Scottish Highland Games & Festival

Chairman Gregory A. Bowers

2024 President's Address Delivered Extemporaneously

Founder and President Emeritus Carter C. Keith

President's Award for 2023

Gregory A. Bowers
Paula Hardesty
Thomas R. Hohman
Kathleen Hohman
Rebekah Lawson

President's Award for 2024

Gregory A. Bowers
Linda Cassady
Paula Hardesty
Kathleen Hohman
Lauren McNabb
Sarah Rae
Carson C. Smith

Recipients of the Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award of Excellence

1989	Lynn Allyn Young
1990	Stephen K. Andrews
1991	Lee E. Cloe
1992	Louis D. Shepherd
1993	James Lamb
1994	Carter C. Keith
1995	Michael and Diana Stevens
1996	Frederick B. Dundas (Posthumous)
1997	Mary Ann Innes Pavlovich
1998	Jeanne B. Blake
1999	Diana Stevens
2000	Rebecca Bilbrey
2001	Judith P. Bastin
2002	Lewis E. Forbes (Posthumous)
2003	Kristy Byers Stewart
2004	Carson C. Smith
2005	Nancy L. Foxworthy
2006	Jack T. Davidson
2007	Rebekah Lawson
2008	George R. McMath, Jr.
2009	Bennett F. Lynch
2010	John D. Dockery, II
2011	Gary and Julie Davidson
2012	Andy and Mary Thompson
2013	Ronald L. Elliott
2014	Lise Douglass and Deneice Jarrett
2015	Steven Johnson
2016	Robin P. Jarrett
2017	Rick Blacklidge
2018	Mark G. and Donna Mae Lawson
2019	Elisabeth A. Hedges
2020	Kathy Hohman
2021	[Award Not Presented]
2022	[Award Not Presented]
2023	[Award Not Presented]
2024	Matthew C. Douglass

The Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award



This photo is a record of the first presentation of the Tommy H. (Tommy) Thompson Award to Lynn Allyn Young at Trinity Episcopal Church in 1989. Pictured left to right are Vice President Carson C. Smith, Trustee Lee E. Cloe, President Thomas C. Milton, Trustee Stephen K. Andrews, Treasurer Louis D. Shepherd, and Secretary Lynn Allyn Young.

The Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award

The time has come to present this year's Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award for Excellence in Service to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis. On occasion, one of our newer members will ask, "Who was Tommy Thompson?" The question serves to remind me how very much the membership of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis has grown, and changed, since its founding in December of 1983.

A slender, darkly tanned, mustachioed man of average height, wearing black plastic framed glasses, Tommy is recalled by his widow, Ginny Sheely Thompson, as an especially "well-built" man who enjoyed swimming. He wore a kilt fashioned from the tartan of Clan Douglas, a khaki colored military styled tunic, and the Glengarry bonnet after which the US Army's overseas cap is modeled. He was a plainspoken man and possessed a wry sense of humor.

Thomas Hubbard Thompson was born on May 31, 1918, in Washington, DC, during his father's service as a Captain in the US Army in World War I. Tommy was descended from one of Indianapolis' prominent families. His great-grandfather, William S. Hubbard, owned the ground upon which L.S. Ayres was built, at the southwest corner of Washington and South Meridian Streets, and founded and served upon the Board of Directors of both Crown Hill Cemetery and Second Presbyterian Church. It was through his mother that Tommy was descended from Katherine Douglas.

Tommy was an only child. His father's career relocated the family to the American South. Tommy attended school in Florida and Alabama, where he was called a "Damned Yank." Ironically, upon the family's return to Indianapolis, his schoolmates called him a "Damned Reb." Tommy was a graduate of Shortridge High School. He attended Butler University, where he pledged Delta Tau Delta, and graduated with a degree in Business Administration and Economics in 1941.

Tommy Thompson enlisted in the US Army, the day following the Japanese attack upon Pearl Harbor, at the age of twenty-three. He served five years in the Pacific theater of operation as the Head of Ordinance in Leyte and the Philippines. Following the war's conclusion, Tommy returned to Indianapolis where he worked part-time for the CIT Credit Corporation, later Universal CIT, a lending institution, which financed freight carriers and personal auto loans.

It was there he met Virginia (Ginny) Sheely, Head of Personnel, in October of 1946. Like Tommy, Ginny was a graduate of Butler University. Like Tommy, Ginny had studied Business Administration and Economics. Like Tommy, Ginny had participated in the Greek system at Butler. Tommy was a Delta Tau Delta. Ginny was an Alpha Omega Pi. Like Tommy, Ginny had never married.

They were married in May of 1947 when, according to Ginny, "We both weighed 147 pounds in 1947!" Ginny has commented that, because Tommy and Ginny had both remained single into their thirties, the success of their marriage bore powerful witness to their mutual flexibility.

To comply with CIT's corporate policy barring married employees, Tommy took a position with Standard Oil Company's Indianapolis office's at 11th and Capitol, and, later, 38th Street, across from the Indiana State Fairgrounds, where he worked as an Assistant Credit Manager for nineteen years.

Tommy and Ginny had one son, Douglas Hubbard Thompson, born in 1952, who later fathered their one granddaughter, Molly. Tommy continued to serve in the US Army, active and reserve, for twenty-two years, retiring in 1965 with the rank of Major. Following Standard Oil Company's closure of its Indianapolis offices, Tommy was asked to relocate to either Chicago or Detroit. He opted, instead, to retire from Standard Oil Company in 1966 and joined First Federal Savings and Loan Association, later, First Indiana Bank, moving from offices on the Indianapolis Westside to Nora, Carmel, and Westfield.

Tommy retired from the private sector, leaving his position as Assistant Vice President and Head of Security for First Indiana Bank, on his 65th birthday on May 31, 1983. He served two terms on the Clay Township Advisory Board and was a Charter Member of Orchard Park Presbyterian Church where he served two terms as a deacon. He was a member of the Retired Officers Association of Indiana, American Legion Kennington Post No. 34 in Broad Ripple, and the Indianapolis-Marion County and Carmel-Clay Historical Societies.

Tommy built, and later remodeled, their home at 10680 Highland Drive, with his own hands, and with, she would be quick to add, no small help from his wife, Ginny. Tommy and Ginny, who is, herself, of German extraction, traveled five times to Scotland and four times to Germany. They became involved in Scottish American Heritage activities as enthusiastic supporters of Clan Douglas. Tommy and Ginny attended games and gatherings in Carrollton, Kentucky, and Gatlinburg, Tennessee, setting up camp in a brown Dodge Van outfitted with curtains that Ginny had made.

The Scottish Society of Indianapolis was founded by its first President, Carter Keith, with the filing of an official letter of intent, with the Indiana Secretary of State, on December 1, 1983, to become effective December 31, 1983. Tommy and Ginny Thompson joined the Scottish Society of Indianapolis in its first year. Tommy was elected to serve upon the Board of Trustees in 1987, 1988, and 1989, and represented the Society at its Cultural Booth at the International Festival of Indianapolis, and built the Celtic cross displayed at Society functions.

As the result of the efforts of Trustee Tommy Thompson, the Scottish Society of Indianapolis sponsored two firsts on Sunday, November 15, 1987, with two Kirkins o' the Tartan. The first, at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church at 10:00 AM, and the second, later that same day, at Christ Church Cathedral Episcopal Church at 4:00 PM, in connection with its 150th Anniversary Celebration.

Tommy was diagnosed with terminal cancer, following his election in November of 1988, to the 1989 Board of Trustees, and given less than one year to live. He resigned from the Board who, under the direction of President Tom Milton, at their meeting in February of 1989, named Tommy "Trustee Emeritus" in recognition of his many invaluable contributions to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Tommy faced his cancer head on, using the time remaining to prepare his wife Ginny to manage their affairs without him. I am so very grateful that, during that final summer, I had the opportunity to spend an evening, sitting on the back porch, and watching the sunset, with Tommy and Ginny Thompson.

Tommy died in the home he and Ginny had built with their own hands in August of 1989. He was laid to rest in the uniform of the United States Army, which he had worn through twenty-two years of service, active and reserve. The members of the Scottish Society of Indianapolis appeared at Tommy's funeral dressed in full Scottish regalia. At the cemetery, his old friend, Colonel Bill Murchie, piped Tommy off with *Amazing Grace*. No Highland Chief ever received a finer send-off than Tommy Thompson.

Throughout his life, and in that final summer prior to his death, Tommy modeled the pursuit of excellence. And, so it is, that I am honored to call Tommy's widow, Ginny Thompson, to the podium, to present this year's Thomas H. (Tommy) Thompson Award for Excellence in Service to the Scottish Society of Indianapolis.

Carson C. Smith, FSA Scot
Past President (1991-92 and 2000-04)
Scottish Society of Indianapolis

Notes