

95<sup>th</sup>  
President

DUNCAN A. BRUCE



Duncan Archibald Bruce was born in Pittsburgh February 19, 1932, the son of Archibald Duncan Bruce, CPA, and Marian Colley Bruce, a teacher who raised four children. Mr. Bruce is the grandson of three Scottish immigrants: James Grant Colley, born in Cambuslang, Lanarkshire; Archibald Bruce, from Ardrishaig Argyll; and Mary Mac Tavish Bruce, from Lochgilphead, Argyll. Mr. Bruce's Highland grandparents, both Gaelic speakers, founded a Presbyterian church in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bruce graduated from Edgewood High School where he was a class president and captain of the baseball team. He was graduated from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1954, and was a member of Friars Senior Society, Alpha Tau Omega, and the Mask and Wig Club.

Mr. Bruce retired in 2002 from a stock trading partnership of many years standing. However, he has always considered his life work to be the discovery and dissemination of the achievements of the Scottish people which have been largely unknown. He spent twenty-five years researching the subject and in 1996 published *The Mark of the Scots* (Kensington) the only book to date to identify Scottish achievers world-wide, in all times. Excerpts from this book were used in 1998 by the U. S. Senate when it drafted its resolution creating National Tartan Day. In 2000 Mr. Bruce published *The Scottish 100* (Carroll and Graf) which consists of capsule biographies of the Scots he believes to have been the most influential in the world. In 2004 he published *The Great Scot* (Truman Tally Books/ St. Martin's Press) a novel of Scotland's warrior king Robert the Bruce.

Over the years Mr. Bruce has been a member of several Scottish-American organizations. He joined Saint Andrew's in 1968 and he has served three terms (nine years) on the Board of Managers, two years as First Vice President, two years as Second Vice President, stints as editor of *The Pibroch* and as Historian, and has spent time on various committees including the Chairmanship of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

During the presidency of Mr. Bruce the Society began its first fund raising campaign in fifty years to benefit the Scholarship program. The effort continues with a goal of \$1,000,000. Also, the annual banquet was moved from the Waldorf to Cipriani's

42<sup>nd</sup> Street with great success. More than six hundred attended and enjoyed the elegant surroundings. During Mr. Bruce's presidency: the Society received a grant of arms from the court of the Lord Lyon in Edinburgh; published *The Scots Who Built New York*, as well as this 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary book; constructed new shelves in the boardroom; discovered the original 18<sup>th</sup> century document under which the Society purchased the land upon which the New York Stock Exchange now sits; held a gala Christmas party at Gracie Mansion; made donations to Glasgow University, Queen Margaret University and the Glasgow School of Arts; celebrated the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Second Presbyterian (Old Scotch Church); received honors from the Clan Currie Society, Scotland Magazine and the British Memorial Garden; held the first ever Tartan Day cocktail party at the Racquet and Tennis Club; agreed to finance part of the cost of a statue of the poet Robert Ferguson which stands on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh; and re-financed the debt on our condominium. Mr. Bruce also represented the Society at the 700<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the enthronement of King Robert the Bruce in Scotland in March of 2006 as the guest of the Earl of Elgin, Chief of the Bruces.

Mr. Bruce has been honored as Honorary Chieftan of the Bonnie Brae Highland Games (1990); and has received The Ellis Island Medal of Honor (1998); The Odom Heritage Award (2002); and was chosen to be the first recipient of the National Tartan Day Award (2003). He has made speeches in New York, Edinburgh, Atlanta, and many other locations. He has been featured in many radio and television programs. He is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (FSA Scot); *An Ceud Fear*; the Mask and Wig Club of Philadelphia, Britannia lodge #1166, and the Royal Order of Scotland.

Tamara, his wife of almost 40 years, died in 2005. He has two daughters, Jennifer and Elizabeth, and two grandsons, Felix Duncan Jean Adnet-Bruce, and Theodore MacTavish Adnet-Bruce.