It is with great pleasure that we invite you to join us at the Scottish Home, headquarters of CHICAGO SCOTS, in North Riverside, Illinois for the 11th annual Scottish North American Leadership Conference. The Conference will begin on Friday, October 25, and conclude on Sunday October 27, 2013.

The conference is an opportunity for those of us in the Scottish-American community to share views, values, experiences and best practices. The Conference aims to raise awareness of Scotland and Scottish culture, to develop a better understanding of the roles, objectives and operations of the various government, academic, non-profit and private sector organizations that operate in the Scottish North American community and to identify opportunities to enhance communication and collaboration within the community.

The Conference is presented by founding partners the CHICAGO SCOTS and THE AMERICAN-SCOTTISH FOUNDATION, in association with The Scottish Studies Foundation, Toronto, Canada and The Detroit St. Andrew’s Society, who hosted the Conference in 2011 and 2012.

The 2013 conference is something of a departure from our usual format as we will use the 2013 Conference to guide us in the preparation of an agenda for the 2014 Conference that will be held in Edinburgh on July 7, 2014 as part of the second year of Homecoming. Like the inaugural Scottish based Leadership Conference held in 2009 during the first Homecoming, the purpose of the 2014 Conference is to enhance collaboration between communities and organizations in Scotland and North America by examining how the engagement of key stakeholders can be improved and mutual benefit can be delivered.

Having spent 20+ years working with the Scottish North American community, we know that there are many stakeholders who share a concern that the infrastructure which sustains North America’s Scottish Diaspora is more fragile than is generally understood. The Scottish North American Conferences in 2013 and 2014 will address this concern. We personally believe that the many relationships which constitute of Scotland’s engagement with her Diaspora can, indeed, must be enhanced and improved - and that the time to achieve this is now.

We are delighted to have the support of Edinburgh University, where we will host the 2014 Leadership Conference. Our Conference will align with another Conference that is being organized by the Chair of the University’s Diaspora Studies Department, acclaimed Scottish Historian, Professor Tom Devine. The University’s Conference will focus on the historic understanding of the North American Scottish Diaspora, and will conclude with an examination of the Diaspora from a contemporary perspective. Our Conference will provide a useful means to extend this examination by looking at various ways that we stakeholders can work together to strengthen the Diaspora’s connection to Scotland well into the future, thus building a lasting and very practical legacy for the Conference.

The program for the 2013 Conference is in the process of formulation. As its focus is, in part, the identification of areas in which we here feel there are opportunities for improved engagement between Scotland and the Diaspora in North America, we encourage you to make your views known so that we can develop an accurate picture of what we collectively wish the engagement to accomplish. We have invited, as is customary, those from Scotland and North America whom we believe will add value to the discussion.

Significant groundwork has already been done regarding both the 2013 and 2014 Conferences. Now, we ask you to reserve your place with us for this October’s Conference. Information on how to reserve your place is attached. Space is limited, so please act today to ensure that your voice is heard. We hope that you will attend these conferences and help to extend and enhance the friendship that binds Scotland and North America.

If you have any questions about the Conference, please do not hesitate to contact us. We will be emailing program and agenda updates in the coming weeks so we can stimulate the discussion ahead of the Conference.

Yours Aye,

Alan L. Bain
Chairman, American-Scottish Foundation

Gus Noble
President, CHICAGO SCOTS
11th Annual National Scottish-North American Leadership Conference

October 25-27, 2013

Registration Form

Name: ____________________________________________

Organization Name: ________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

Home Phone: ___________________ Cell Phone: __________________________

E-mail (Please print): __________________________________________

Will you be flying or driving? _____ Airline _______________ Flight # _______________ Arrival Time __________

I would like to purchase _____ ticket(s) at $130 each for the entire conference $______

_____ ticket(s) at $65 each for the Friday Banquet only $______

_____ ticket(s) at $65 each for the conference only $______

Payment Options:

_____ I have enclosed a check made payable to the Illinois Saint Andrew Society (ISAS).

Please bill my credit card: Visa _________ MasterCard _______ Amex ________________

Account Number ____________________________ Expiration Date ___________ Security Code _____________

Signature: __________________________________________

Please return form to:
The Illinois Saint Andrew Society
Attn: Julia Witty-Miller
2800 Des Plaines Ave
North Riverside, IL 60546

Fax to 708.447.4697 or Email: juliamiller@chicagoscots.org
Keep the Conference Possible with a Sponsorship!

The Scottish North-American Leadership Conference is organized and executed by two nonprofit organizations. In order to keep the conference relevant and vibrant we rely on the support of the generosity of the communities we serve and those who are invested in the continued development of transatlantic cooperation.

Please consider a fully tax deductible gift to the American Scottish Foundation or the CHICAGO SCOTS/Illinois Saint Andrew Society designated to the Scottish North American Leadership Conference.

Gift Amount: $______________________________

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Please return form to:

The Illinois Saint Andrew Society OR The American Scottish Foundation, Inc.
Attn: Julia Witty-Miller Attn: Camilla Hellman
2800 Des Plaines Ave Scotland House, 575 Madison Avenue, 10th Floor
North Riverside, IL 60546 New York, NY, 10022

Fax to 708.447.4697 or FAX to 212.605.0222
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