



Volume I - Number 1- Section 2

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree

June 2007



Colorful Buchanan reinactor Hendersonville, NC Highland Games 2006

Just one of a group of beautifully dressed Scottish reinactors who participated in last year's Hendersonville Highland Games near Hendersonville, North Carolina. The group camped authentically for the event and added much color to the proceedings.

Do you know about The Clan MacAthair Society?

The Clan MacAthair (pronounced MacAhur) was founded 30 November 1991. Both the birthday of the Clan and the feast of St. Andrew, The Patron Saint of Scotland are celebrated that day!

Dues are ten dollars a year...with septs ranging from Aaronson to Yeakel (and your editor's folks - the Mullins'.)

Contact them for full information at The Clan MacAthair Society, 495 Grantham Drive, Owings, MD 20736.

Let's all write Sgt. Paul Mehaffie

Sgt. Paul Mehaffie is currently serving in Iraq and welcomes cards and letters from Clansmen from Clan Macfie or members of the Scottish-American community. Write him at: Sgt. Paul Mehaffie, 258th RAOC, APO, AE 09331.

May 27 is Clan Macfie Day!

May 27 has been named Clan Macfie Day since Clan Macfie was formally recognized by the Lord Lyon as an active Clan on 27th May 1981. Macfie's all over the world are encouraged to celebrate on their day...and to mark it on next year's calendars! If you do something fun, be sure and let the editor of the

Continued on page 48

The Northern Arizona Celtic Heritage Society's 10th Annual

Arizona Highland Celtic Festival

July 21 & 22, 2007

Foxglenn Park, Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Presenting, Promoting, and Preserving the Celtic Culture of

Asturias Brittany Cornwall Galicia Ireland Isle of Man Scotland Wales



Entertainment

- ~ The Wicked Tinkers
- ~ Alex Beaton
- ~ The Knockabouts
- ~ Ocean's Apart

Competitions

- ~ Highland Dance
- ~ Scottish Athletics
- ~ Solo Bagpipe
- ~ Tug o' War



Celtic Kids Corner

- ~ Oatmeal Toss
- ~ Pirate activities, Celtic games and lots of fun stuff!

Displays & Education

- ~ Plants of the Celtic Regions
- ~ Spirits of the Celtic Regions
- ~ Scottish Clans
- ~ Celtic Societies
- ~ Celtic Education Tent
- ~ Celtic Geology Exhibit



Reenactments

- ~ Black Powder Demonstration by The 1745 Jacobite Society
- ~ The Highland Rogues
- ~ The C.R.O.F.T.



Workshops

- ~ On Celtic language, music, kilt attire, and something special...

SALT... it's History, Mysteries and Fancies!

Saturday: 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM
Sunday: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Adults:
1-day: \$10; 2-days: \$15
Children 3-12 years:
1-day: \$4; 2-days: \$6

FREE Friday Night Concert,
Heritage Square, Downtown

followed by

Single Malt Whisky Tasting
(fee charged; must be over 21)
Uptown Billiards, 114 North Leroux,
Downtown

Saturday Night: Celtic Ceilidh
Charly's in the Weatherford Hotel
23 N. Leroux St. – Downtown
Cover charge \$5



For more information:
www.nachs.info
928.556.3161

*Come to the cool Arizona Highlands,
where the temperature in July is about 80 °*

Culture of the Heart, Part I

Maria E. Fiebelkorn <mnwfie@bellsouth.net>

The culture of my heart was centered around the safe surroundings of my family. Many years ago, the customs passed down through the generations of my grandparents and the memories of their childhood easily adapted to the needs of my family when I entered the world. As my mother was trying to finish the work in the row of my grandfather's vineyard, the call of nature let her know that it was time for me to be born. Everything she needed and the assistance to give birth was unfortunately at the house. It was a blessing that my grandmother had stayed a few minutes for my mother to finish her row, and one look at my mother's face rang the alarm that it was time. "Oh, Bozje moi, neces doci do kuce!" My grandmother blurted out. The translation was simply: "Oh, my God, you can't make it to the house!"

That was probably the last word spoken, except to yell for help, by either of the women. Quickly my grandmother took off her apron, which was an ample piece of material, and spread it out on the ground. My mother, with difficulty, dragged her heavy body and laid down on the patch of grass covered by the apron. My grandmother related how she had given up calling out for help and began to put her full efforts into birthing the cutest little bundle of joy. My mother quickly interjected how she had done her part. Knowing now how it feels to carry a "bundle of joy" for nine months, I can relate how probably "the bundle of joy" was as anxious to be relieved of the

cramped quarters of a uterus, especially when the carrier had been bending over for a couple of hours in the vineyard.

That was my humble beginning of experiencing the entry into this place known as the world I was to learn all about during my formative years. First of all, I was never hungry. There were two sides to choose from, and my mother made sure that if I emptied one side, the other would be available for me. Nursing was a practical way of culture in those days. The practice served multiple purposes. No bottles to wash, or sterilize. In our part of the world, they were not invented yet. My part of this vast world was a farm in a small rural part of Croatia (Yugoslavia). At that time, I did not know that any other part of the world existed. My life was full of

smiling faces of family, relatives, friends, and neighbors.

If I could remember that far back, I would probably have enjoyed the part where the women would get together and knit. At the time, most clothing was hand made, even socks. The ladies would tell stories and laugh at each one and sometimes try to outdo each other. When the story became serious, it would be about someone in town who needed help and a plan would be made of how best to help. All during the work session, the cradle was rocked I (being in the cradle) would have enjoyed the motion and been lulled to sleep. Too bad I personally do not remember that experience, but as I grew to an age where I

Continued on page 31



Queries! Queries!

Queries!

A Query

**We need queries for
Beth's**

Newfangled Family Tree!



Seeking information on **MARY CANNON** who married **JAMES MADISON McDONALD** ca 1843 somewhere along the Savannah River. I have extensive information to share about him...but know nothing more about her except she may be buried somewhere near Live Oak, Florida. **MARY** and **JAMES** had a big family and I know lots about them from then on and am glad to share all information. Please contact **Beth Gay**, bethscribble@aol.com or write 347 Rocky Knoll Rd., Walhalla, SC 29691.

Most everyone who is working on genealogy has a few queries tucked away in their papers. Now is the time to pull them out and submit them to *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree!*

It's FREE to have them on these pages although it would be appreciated if you didn't go over 100 words.

We'll have up to four pages of queries in each publication.

Be sure that you give contact information along with the query and be sure all names are in capital letters.

Just email - with "query" in the subject line - your queries to:

<bethscribble@aol.com>

FREE!FREE!

Culture of the Heart, Part 1, *Continued from page 29*

was old enough to fetch a ball of yarn, or pull up a bucket of water from the nearby well, I became aware of what role each age group and gender played. It seemed that the men did the hard farm labor and women stepped in to help where needed. The rest of the time the women made garments for the family and made sure no one went hungry. By the time I became even more aware of my surroundings and began to want to do more than just fetch a ball of yarn, my world was turned upside down by the invasion of war.

All those treasures of the heart I was beginning to store in my memory were being disrupted by outside forces. Unwelcome, I might add. The treasured Christmas customs of family times together, with relatives driving to our home by horse and buggy to spend Christmas, became family reunions. We became reacquainted with uncles, aunts, and cousins we had not seen for almost a whole year. We would celebrate Christmas for three or four days during that special time. Christmas Eve day was a busy time to prepare the food for all the meals. Then the floors were covered with layers of straw on which the children and sometimes adults would sleep if there were not enough beds. Everyone was put to work to prepare for the Christmas feasts.

The table settings were very interesting. There would be straw under a white table cloth, made special for the occasion. The straw was symbolic of the Christ child laying in a manger of straw. Three weeks prior to Christmas Eve, my grandmother had placed an inverted glass on a plate, spread wheat kernels around the glass, and watered the wheat as necessary to get it to sprout. By Christmas Eve, the wheat had sprouted and the tops of the sprouts were trimmed to the height of the glass which was then turned up and a candle placed in the glass. The candle was only lit one time and that was on Christmas Eve. The symbolic light represented that Jesus is the Light of the world. Only grandpa was allowed to blow it out after the meal. Our Christmas Eve meal was cooked beans, mashed to a paste consistency, a large

bowl of cut up apples, another large bowl of walnuts, and cloves of garlic. In the middle of all these was another bowl of honey. I still marvel at how we all fit around the table at this meal, but no one was left

out. Also, the point of interest was that no one left the table hungry. Contentment seemed to be on all our faces. Everyone worked together to clear the table for the next meal, and bundling up the children for church was a pleasant experience. It appeared no one wanted to miss any event of family Christmas that co-operation was in full force.

The next step to the Christmas Eve celebration was that everyone, no one was excused, began to form a line to walk to church for midnight service. On the way we met friends and neighbors. This is the one time of the year where the church had no reserved seats, and it was first come, first to get a seat. The children were all sent to the front as close to the communion railing as possible. I don't know how the pastor liked that. He seemed to be all right with the seating arrangements, as he appeared to be smiling throughout the whole time we watched him in childlike awe. It was just to amazing how all that worked. Everyone was able to be inside and no one was left out in the cold. The smiles on everybody's faces must have been transposed by the pastor's smile. I just always marveled at how that was possible, to get that many people to smile at one time.

The walk home was brisk and refreshing with snow crunching under our feet. Wooden shoes and straw inside with wool socks on our feet made it that much more fun. The children loved to slide walk through the crowd of family and anyone they could pass by sliding. Of course, there were many hands to pick up any child who just happened to fall into a snow bank on the way, which happened quite often. We tried to be at home first so we could stand by the wood stove and dry our damp clothes from all those



Continued on page 32

Culture of the Heart, Part 1,

Continued from page 31
slips into snow banks along the way. Now the feasting really began. No wonder every one seemed content with the meager symbolic meal of simplicity. The feast was a full table of roasts, potatoes, pickled beets, canned cherries,



pears, apples, and delicious home baked bread. The aroma was overwhelming. The cherry ciders, fresh milk recently milked from willing cows, hot teas, and water from melted snow were all waiting to be enjoyed. There was not a serious conversation in this crowd.

Having been sated with good food and loving family conversations, soon made the children drowsy. One whole room was given to the children. Everyone had their wool blanket and pillow to lay down on the fresh straw. The floor became a wall to wall to wall bed.

It did not seem that we slept a long time before we heard grandpa saying in a hushed voice, "Come and hear the animals talk. If you can hear me, come quickly!"

Of course, not one child was allowed to stay behind and sleep. We all followed grandpa to the barn. Lo, and behold, we all heard the animals talk, just because grandpa said so.

We felt so special to have had that experience, and I can to this day recall the joy of the event. It would be wonderful if I could tell you what they said, but time does something to the memory. All I can say, it was wonderful.

There are more cultural memories stored in this old heart which I will tell at another opportune time. In the meantime, allow your heart to store loving memories of your culture. Smile, God loves you! ●

Culture of the Heart, Part II will be in our July issue of Beth's Newfangled Family Tree.

Maria Fiebelkorn is a member of the Oconee Writer's Group, Seneca, South Carolina.

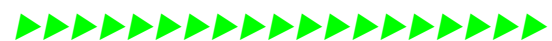
Clan Buchanan Society International will be hosting tents in the Northeastern US

Saturday June 2 - Southern New Hampshire
Scottish Games - if anyone is convening a tent please let me know.

Saturday June 23 - Clan Buchanan will be the Honored Clan at the Western Massachusetts Highland Games in Greenfield, Mass. - Stephen Doherty (Mass. Regent) will be convening the Clan Buchanan Tent - We hope you will all come out and give The Buchanan a big showing!!!)

And for those of you interested in a road trip - the CBSI Annual General Meeting will be at Grandfather Mountain in North Carolina from July 12 to July 15.

For a list of all upcoming events and links to event websites go the Clan Buchanan New England Region Website at <http://www.geocities.com/ayebuchanan/events.html>



*If you have memories
of your own*

"Culture of the Heart"
*and would like to share
them here, please email
<bethscribble@aol.com>*



Glasgow Highland Games

May 29-June 1, 2008

*119 East Main Street
Glasgow, KY 42141*

270-651-3141

<ghg@glasgow-ky.com>



Glasgow Highland Games



Owsley Historical Society meeting to feature Dr. Douglas Owsley, forensic anthropologist, from the Smithsonian

The Owsley society will meet this year in Charlottesville, Virginia. You do not have to be a society member to attend.

Mark you calendars and make your reservations now for the Owsley Family Historical Society Annual Meeting to be held June 7th-9th, 2007 in Charlottesville, Virginia.



We will start with early registration and a desert social on the evening of Thursday June 7, 2006 -a time for cousins to share genealogical information, scrapbooks, photos and generally get caught up since our last meeting in Chattanooga. Friday, June 8th,

will begin with our annual business meeting-including an update on plans for the August OFHS English Heritage Tour by the Farnsworths. Later on Friday and Saturday will be an update on the latest Owsley Surname Project DNA findings by Floyd Owsley and Ronny Bodine, a talk on tracing German ancestry by Ronny Bodine and a presentation on our royal Irish ancestry by Sheila Patterson- plus some surprises!

Friday lunch will be at the hotel. Supper is on your own with cousins. On Saturday, June 8th, we will carpool to the historic eighteenth century Michie Tavern for a wonderful lunch served by attendants

in period costume and a tour of the Tavern and Museum. Our meeting will conclude with our Saturday night banquet at the hotel.

While in Charlottesville, we will be staying at the Doubletree Hotel- this is the same hotel we used for our 2003 meeting and it was a popular choice. Charlottesville is located in a beautiful and historic area of the country. Nearby attractions include Thomas Jefferson's Monticello and the University of Virginia which he also designed. One can visit Ash Lawn, home of Jefferson's friend and fellow President, James Monroe. A little further afield is Poplar Forest, which Jefferson built as a retreat from the bustle of Monticello.

For those who have a few more days, historic Jamestown and Virginia's colonial capital, Williamsburg are within driving distance. The Library of Virginia's extensive historical collection is in Richmond.

To register for the meeting, contact Sheila Patterson at <lmnop9@juno.com> or Connie Howard at <cjhoward@pokynet.com>. Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Doubletree Hotel Charlottesville at 434-973-2121 . Be sure to mention that you are coming for the Owsley Family Historical Society Meeting."

Another big announcement it looks like its a go to visit Tiverton the estate of Frederick Owsley a brother of HBO on Sat. Charolette who family have lived on the estate and her ancestors who also lived there on estate in Frederick's time will be our guide.

This evening, Connie Howard, this year's Program Director, received word from Dr. Douglas Owsley that he has been able to clear his schedule and attend our Annual Meeting in Charlottesville. Dr. Owsley is head of the forensic anthropology department at the Smithsonian Institution and is well-

Continued on page 36



Standard of the Much Honoured Mark John Harden, 16th Baron of Cowdenknowse
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Grand Bailiwick of the Scots - The Grand Priory of the Temple of Jerusalem Investiture at Loch Norman Hopewell Presbyterian



The Friday before the 2007 Loch Norman Highland Games near Huntersville, NC, Dame Patricia Tennyson Bell, the Executive Officer - Grand Bailiwick of the Scots traveled from Pasadena, California to preside over the Investiture of four new members of the order. Jack Rice, from Florida, shown above with Dame Patricia and Chevalier Raymond Gill, Prior of the Priory of Bannockburn, was one of the new Knights.

Continued on page37



Owsley Family Reunion, *continued from page 19*

known to our membership. Dr. Owsley is a much sought speaker at academic gatherings and commands a substantial speaking fee, but we have had the great fortune of having Dr. Owsley attend our meetings on two previous occasions, in May 1993 in Richmond, Virginia and in June 2003 in Charlottesville.

On Saturday, 9 June, Dr. Owsley will give a lecture and slide presentation on the forensic analysis of 17th-century St. Mary's City, Maryland, which was the original center of the Maryland colony, founded in 1634 and Jamestowne, Virginia, considered the first permanent English settlement in what is now the United States.

Continued on page 37

Grand Bailiwick of the Scots, *con't from page 20*



Chevalier Raymond Gill (above) with new Dame of the Order, Beth Gay, after the ceremonies. Chev. Gill stepped down that day as Prior of the Priory of Bannockburn. The new Prior will be Chevalier Scott Turnbull.

Shown on the right are Chevalier Gill with newly Invested Knights, Jim Kilpatrick of Atlanta and Jim Walters from Texas. All Investiture photos by Tom Freeman.

Owsley Family Reunion, *continued from page 36*

Following his presentation in 2003, Dr. Owsley took time to autograph a biography that had been written about him. This book, *No Bone Unturned*, by Jeff Benedict, is now available only in paperback from Amazon.com for \$11.86. If you are planning on attending, consider ordering the book and bring it with you. Now, having made this exciting announcement, I encourage you to make your plans on attending. Time is running out to make hotel reservations at the Double Tree where we stayed in 2003. Be advised that although the cost for the OFHS per night is \$99.00, plus tax, the regular rate for all others is \$144.00. Connie did some serious negotiating to secure this rate. The hotel's toll-free number is 1-800-494-9467.

Pass the word to whomever you can about the meeting and make your plans on attending.

Have a safe trip.

Best regards, Ronny Bodine President, OFHS ●



The Parade of Tartans

Loch Norman Highland Games - April 21, 2007



If you'd like all of the photos of your clan...just email [<bethscribble@aol.com>](mailto:bethscribble@aol.com).

If you go to Highland Games and have photos you'd like to see here...email the above address. I would need, please, a CD of the photos.



Remember, you
CAN print these pages.



The Parade of Tartans

*Loch Norman
Highland Games
April 21, 2007*

More more more...



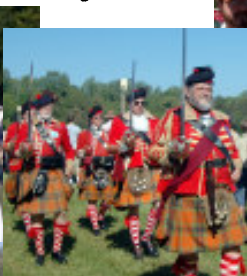
The Parade of Tartans

Loch Norman Highland Games - April 21, 2007



The Parade of Tartans

Loch Norman Highland Games - April 21, 2007



The Kingdome of Räkna explained some...

There is no doubt that many of our readers have seen some Scots at Highland Games wearing the bronze (Men) or blue (Ladies) horned pin of The Kingdome of Räkna and wondered about its origin. We suspect that many others of our readers and supporters are Citizens of The Kingdome to especially include our esteemed Editor. For the uninitiated, here's some information about this illustrious organization that has confounded some while motivating many, many others.

The origins of the Scottish-Norse Kingdome of Räkna revolve around the infectious and witty personality of a first generation American of Scottish descent, one Robert "Bob" Alexander Swanson of Clan Gunn. Bob who served his country well and celebrated Family, Friends & Life with zeal, befriended nine other like spirits and held their first of many parties in a back-room at the Banner Elk Holiday Inn one Sunday night following the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in 1979.

It was this group - comprised of Bob and Jeanette Swanson of Birmingham, AL; Peter Blum of Greensboro, NC; Dr. Bill "Doc" and "Babe" Ritchie of Evansville, IN; Ed & Gunni Manson of Ozona, FL; Mike Wilson of Adrian, MI; and Ned Buxton & Becky Sapp of Atlanta, GA who by way of their quest for friendship and camaraderie unknowingly laid the foundation for future parties and an organization that would go down in the history books.

Many of the other early members of The Kingdome

were the clan representatives, field workers and technicians who were the literal backbone of many Highland Games, especially in the Southeastern United States. Bob and those that comprised his close circle of Friends were certainly motivated to celebrate life and put their Scottish-Norse experience in perspective. They were

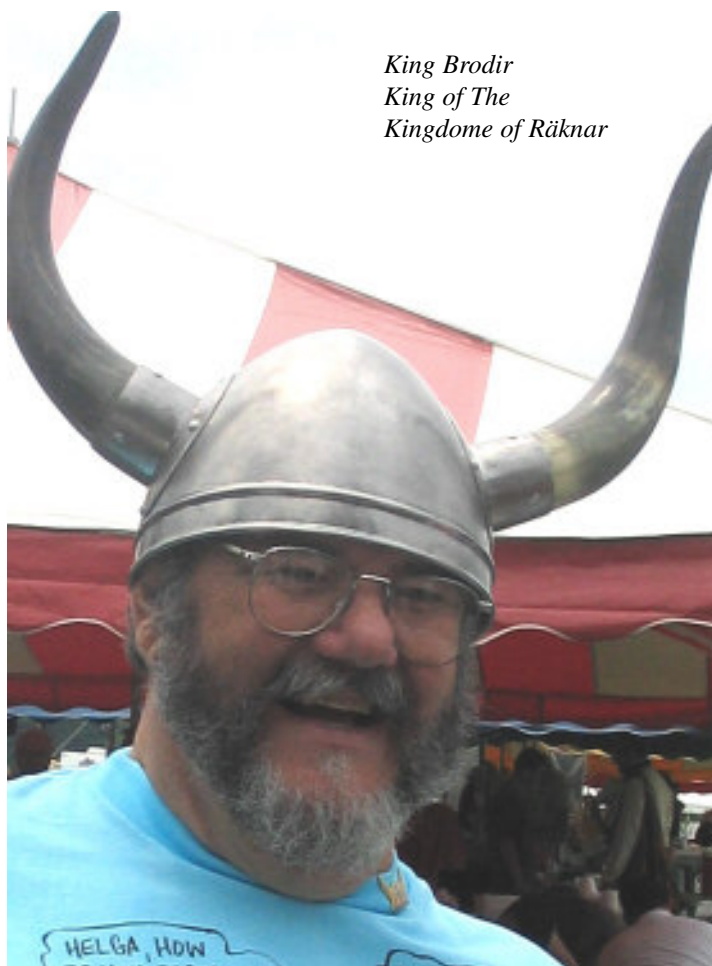
also turned off by some of the bickering, infighting and exclusivity that seemed to become de rigueur with so many of the Scottish Highland Clans at that time, certainly at cross purposes with the celebration of their individual and collective pedigrees and the overall spirit of the Scottish movement.

So, Voila! A little tempest here, disgust there and desire to have a good time and you have a recipe, yes - a *raison d'être*, for like-minded Scots to fight the good fight as necessary, to come together to

celebrate their common heritage and to poke a little fun at themselves at a venue that was and is devoid of those sinister behaviors with the stated purpose to just have FUN! It works! It seemed natural that a good-hearted spoof of the system via of a famous and very popular comic strip character like Hägar the Horrible® was not only doable, but potentially a heck of a lot of fun!

Swanson's witty mentoring personality, wife

Continued on page 43



*King Brodir
King of The
Kingdome of Räkna*

The Kingdome of Räkna explained some...continued from page 42

Jeanette's administrative ability and the vivid imagination of a few well-intended insiders who probably shared little else with other individuals, save their association to the Scottish Community and a healthy respect for Swanson and the idea that a good time was OK, were critical ingredients for the formation of Räkna. We suspect that The Kingdome that bids people to gather once, maybe two or three times a year to party (they call them Raids - Ceilidhs & Hogmanay) and includes persons of all political persuasions, rich and poor, male and female - serious and not, doctors and patients, Scottish Highland Chiefs and Gillies, CEOs and factory workers, spiritual and not and everybody else in between is pretty special.

The early post Highland Game Raids were held at Grandfather Mountain and then also at the Glasgow, KY Highland Games in 1987. Today the main Raid continues at Glasgow while the Raids at Grandfather (and occasionally at Stone Mountain and Loch Norman), carry on the Räkna tradition.

The Kingdome continues to attract folks that are service oriented, the worker bees and many of the entertainers that make our Highland Games happen. Who could resist the chance to engage an exercise in silliness, to relax and deprogram oneself after the rigours of yet another Highland Games by poking fun at themselves?

The great irony is that Räkna now has almost thirty years under its belt. Many of those same worker bees are now the leaders (Poo-Baas in Räkna terms) of many Highland Games. They have met the enemy and they are it!? This Kingdome that has included thirteen standing Scottish Chiefs and Lord Lyon, King of Arms has against all original intent evolved into one of the more desired groups with which to affiliate! The pin of Räkna is now one of the most recognized in the Scottish Community."

In that same spirit The Kingdome continues to fund the piping scholarships which are annually awarded in June on the occasion of the Great Highland Gathering we know as the Glasgow, Kentucky Highland Games. The Kingdome publishes the highly regarded, entertaining and edgy newsletter,

The Räkna Ragg (adults only, please). Their real challenge now is to continue to embrace the tenets of their mission: to celebrate life, have fun and forever forward the positive Scottish-Norse experience.

We suspect that they will never forget their origins and how they changed the world and helped the Scottish Community evolve into a more workable and sustainable group where enmity and individual agendas are replaced by humanity, persuasive inclusion and the good of the many.

We hope and pray, Aye!

Special to *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* by Toly Turstin ©

Please permit me to say **"Thank you"** to all of our columnists...both returning and new. These folks contribute their work and expertise and knowledge because they care about our heritage.

If you are visiting with any of them, please thank them as well for their kindness and friendship to this publication and the editor.



*Santa and
The Queen Mum,
Jeanette Swanson,
2007 Hogmanay*



Frank and Susan Shaw with grandchildren, Ian and Sterling Elizabeth at Culloden Highland Games.

A highlander and his books...

**Frank R. Shaw,
FSA SCOT**

Atlanta, GA, USA

email: jurascot@earthlink.net



Aeneas MacDonald

A Book Review of *WHISKY* by Aeneas MacDonald

This is a rare wee book consisting of only 135 pages of pure delight about whisky. The author, George Malcolm Thomson, used the pseudonym Aeneas MacDonald “in deference to his mother”. I was presented with this gem by my good friend, Dave McDaniel, a fellow Scot. We are both members of the St. Andrew’s Society of Atlanta where Dave is the “Official” Chairman of the Bar Committee. He knows whisky and pours a mean dram!

Ian Buxton, one of the world’s greatest whisky authorities, has a 25-page “Appreciation” or introduction at the beginning of this epistle that, in and of itself, is worth the price of the publication. Mr. Buxton has brought this very readable book, first published in 1930, to our generation of readers and deserves the highest of accolades for doing so. Its cover flap brags, and justifiably so I might add, that this “is what everyone should know about the world’s noblest beverage”. After you’ve read it, you will be hard pressed to disagree.

WHISKY is one of the best works I have reviewed in the six plus years since beginning the column, A

HIGHLANDER AND HIS BOOKS. Let me hasten to say this is not a volume “just” for men. Women will find it enjoyable, factual, and full of wit and interesting references, replete with historical anecdotes throughout. Discriminating readers, as well as discriminating drinkers, will find this manuscript of great value. You’ll love the book even if you do not drink whisky!

The name Aeneas MacDonald should resonate with all clan members, not just Clan MacDonald. Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott each play a part in the book. You’ll learn of the so-called “Squirrel” whisky which produces an “irresistible desire to climb trees” and “Rabbit” whisky that creates an impulse to leap and run.

You wouldn’t spend good money on bad whisky, and you will never, ever spend good money on a better reading whisky book! Need I say more as to how interesting you’ll find this book?

WHISKY by Aeneas MacDonald was re-published by Canongate Books Ltd, 14 High Street, Edinburgh, ISBN I 84195 857 3, and costs 9.99 pounds. (FRS: 5-21-07)

Beth’s Newfangled Family Tree has three sections

Don’t miss any of them!

Join Us at
Ventura County's Own Scottish Festival:

Seaside Highland Games

Oct. 12th, 13th & 14th, 2007

In the
Ventura County Fairgrounds,
Ventura, California



Featured Entertainers Include:

Alex Beaton • Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas
Celtic Spring • Highland Way
Tempest • Wicked Tinkers
Bydand Forever • Highlander Warriors

Don't miss these Entertaining Events!

Scottish Heavy Athletics
Pipe Band & Solo Piping Competitions
Highland Dance Competition
Scottish Country Dancing
Gathering of the Clans
Vendors, Children's Glen
British Classic Cars, Genealogy
Sheep Herding Demonstrations
Arts & Crafts, Gàidhlig
Scotch Tasting Seminar...And Haggis!

WHISKY TASTING AND "A SCOTTISH EVENING" AND FASHION SHOW

Friday Evening, Oct 12th at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel

Event Schedule

Saturday	9:00am	Gates Open
	Noon	Grand Parade & Opening Ceremonies
	8:00pm	Alex Beaton and Alasdair Fraser in Concert
Sunday	9:30am	Kirkin' o' the Tartans
	4:30pm	Closing Ceremonies

TICKETS

Adult:
1 Day Gate Price \$14
2 Day Gate Price \$20
Advance: 1 Day, \$12 - 2 Day \$18
Senior (62+) & Military:
1 Day Gate Price \$12
2 Day Gate Price \$18
Advance: 1 Day, \$10 - 2 Day \$15
Children:
1 Day Gate Price \$3
Children 5 & under Free

NO PET DOGS Allowed In Seaside Park

Whisky Tasting: \$25

Scottish Evening: \$30

Sponsor Packages Available



VcReporter

Assistingsu.com

Host Hotel Reservations:

The Pierpont Inn (805) 643-6144
Crown Plaza (805) 648-2100
Country Inn & Suites (805) 653-1434
Four Points Sheraton (805) 658-1212
Ventura Beach Marriott (805) 643-6000

AMTRAK STOPS AT OUR
FRONT GATE!

For More Information:

www.seaside-games.com

CONTACT:

John & Nellie at (818) 886-4988, e-mail: SeasideChief@aol.com

Why didn't they beam Scotty up?

Toly Turstin

The Scottish Community has long celebrated its folk heroes, real and imagined. The TV character that seems to have best personified that idol worship is Lt. Montgomery Scott, Scotty to the minions. And

that's one of the purposes of this piece - to recognize Scotty as one of the seminal characters of Scottish folklore.

Never taking a back seat to Robert the Bruce, Rob Roy MacGregor, William Wallace, Robinson Crusoe, Peter Pan or even Fionn of Nifty Comics fame,



James Doohan gave soul and spirit to the Scotty character of Star Trek fame and brought a great sense of pride in self and country to Scots the world over.

James Montgomery Doohan (March 3, 1920 - July 20, 2005) was Irish-conceived and born in Vancouver, British Columbia. He was the youngest of four children of Catholics William and Sarah Doohan who courtesy of the Irish War of Independence, immigrated (while his mother was pregnant with him) from Northern Ireland and the predominantly Protestant town of Bangor located immediately south of Belfast.

Doohan's family later moved to Sarnia, Ontario where he attended high school at the Sarnia Collegiate Institute and Technical School where he excelled in mathematics and science. In addition to his school work, Doohan enrolled in the Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps in Sarnia.

Scotty left home at age 19 to join the Canadian

Forces at the outbreak of World War II. Posted in England, he served through the duration of the war, eventually commissioned as a lieutenant and rose through the ranks, but without seeing actual combat until June 6, 1944 — D-Day — where he led a regiment of 33 men onto Juno Beach at Normandy, France.

Shooting two snipers along the way, Doohan led his unit to higher ground through a field of anti-tank mines and took defensive positions for the night. Crossing between command posts at 11:30 that night, Doohan took six rounds from a Bren2 light machine gun that was apparently fired by a nervous Canadian sentry (several accounts conflict): four rounds in his leg, one in the chest, and one through his right middle finger. The bullet to his chest was halted by the silver cigarette case he carried, and his wounded finger was amputated. He kept that cigarette case for the rest of his life and even continued using it (with the dent slightly taken out) until he quit smoking in the 1970's.

Doohan trained as a pilot and flew an artillery observation plane for the remainder of the war and though never actually a member of the Royal Canadian Air Force, received the dubious distinction of being called the "craziest pilot in the Canadian Air Forces." One of the many legendary (true?) stories of his flying years tells of Doohan slaloming a plane — variously cited as a Hurricane or a jet trainer — between mountainside telegraph poles to prove it could be done, earning a serious reprimand.

Doohan enjoyed a career in radio and television and demonstrated his versatility in a variety of roles. Interestingly Doohan played the role of forest ranger Timber Tom (the northern counterpart of Buffalo Bob) in the Canadian version of *Howdy Doody*. Coincidentally, fellow Canadian and Star Trek cast member William Shatner, with whom Scotty felt no

Continued on page 47

real rapport, appeared simultaneously as Ranger Bill in the American version.

In 1965 Star Trek casting director James Goldstone suggested that the burly, booming-voiced Doohan audition for the supporting role of chief engineer of the *U.S.S. Enterprise*. That character was not yet fully developed and Doohan, after trying out a variety of accents during the audition, offered the character with a Scottish burr impressing Trek producer Gene Roddenberry.

Queried about his choice Doohan responded, “If this character is going to be an engineer, you’d better make him a Scotsman.” Insinuating that all the world’s best engineers have been Scottish, Doohan picked the Aberdeen accent he learned from his bunkmate in WWII.

Thusly, Lt. Commander Montgomery Scott’s plaintive Scots declaration, “I dinna ken if she can tak any more, Captain!” - rang through the outer edges of the cosmos as Captain James T. Kirk urged even more power out of the craft. Despite his protestations Scotty always managed to give those warp engines the extra boost required to desperately maneuver the Starship Enterprise out of life-threatening situations. The sound bite “Beam me up, Scotty!” will certainly continue to resonate until the great Yellowstone caldera once again erupts or the sun goes super nova.

The actor remained in the role until Star Trek’s cancellation in 1969, subsequently reviving the character for the 1974 cartoon series and the many theatrical films. Scotty, one of the few characters in the annals of TV pop culture to rise to lofty iconic heights, was able to parlay his Star Trek character into a continuing career that saw him making personal appearances and speeches all around the world. Though born a Canadian of Irish descent we look suspiciously at his Montgomery middle name and suspect an underlying Scottish pedigree. There are

others, however, that have taken their quest to imprint a Scottish identity on Montgomery Scott to almost absurd lengths.

In a head-long rush to recognize and validate Scotty’s pedigree Linlithgow, Aberdeen, Edinburgh and Elgin, Scotland have all proclaimed that they are the real birthplace of Lt. Commander Montgomery Scott. Plaques abound in all these cities though we honestly have to admit that pursuit of the almighty Pound, Euro and Dollar may have more to do with this genealogical epiphany. It appears that Linlithgow may have the inside track given the documented 2222 CE birth of Scotty though Scotty had been heard to proudly claim status as an Aberdonian pub crawler. Can’t he be both?

As a partial if not tongue-in-cheek validation of this presumed heritage good Friend George Takei (Star Trek helmsman Hikaru Sulu) has confessed that Doohan loved his Scotch. That aside, after having totally immersed himself in his Scottish persona, Doohan said that he had, “imbibed enough of the

libation of Scotland to qualify him as a Scotsman.” A crafty fellow, Doohan was eventually told by his doctor to quit drinking Scotch. He dutifully complied and switched to vodka invoking memories of Humphrey Bogart who having survived the same regimen complained and bemoaned, “I should never have switched from Scotch to Martinis.”

An aside: Scotty was no amateur to the wonders of alcohol and was a major fan of the southern Rhone Chateaneuf Du Pape considered by many (including this

writer) to be the pricey epitome (and, yes, the royalty) of the great French Reds.

Doohan tragically suffered from the quadruple whammy of Parkinson’s disease, diabetes, lung fibrosis and in later life - Alzheimer’s disease. Doohan sought his final refuge in 2005 and joined fellow

Continued on page 48





Clan Macfie, *continued from page 26*

Clan Macfie Newsbeat know what you did to celebrate Clan Macfie Day. Write Dr. Jim McAfee, 420 Ash Drive, Baxter, TN 38544.

You may visit the Macfie Society of America Website at: <http://www.macfiesocietyofamerica.com>

James Montgomery Doohan, *continued from page 47*

Trekkies, Gene Roddenberry, DeForest Kelley, Ray Walston, John Colicos, Persis Khambatta, Mark Lenard, Bibi Besch, Merrit Butrick, Jeffry Hunter and Lee Bergbere in the Cosmos.

Reminiscent of Gene Roddenberry's final journey, on April 28, 2007 a symbolic portion of James Doohan's remains were shot into space via Houston-based Space Services' Celestis along with remnants of astronaut Gordon Cooper and 201 other participants including some 911 ashes from New York City. The intent was to achieve a suborbital altitude and then parachute the payload of ashes and experiments back to Earth and then return the remains to Family members for final burial.

Well, it seems that the SpaceLoft XL rocket and its payload did blast into suborbital space with chutes deploying as programmed, though like the proverbial arrow, it fell to Earth, they know not where? The booster was successfully located earlier on the side of a mountain some 30 miles away from Spaceport America and within the White Sands Missile Range. Rough, dense terrain and windy conditions have slowed the recovery effort. Though recovery operations continue as of this writing, helicopter crews have not been able to locate the ashes of their distinguished passengers much to the chagrin of once-elated, almost euphoric Family members. We are reminded of the attempt of the Scots-Norse Kingdome of Räknaar to deliver the ashes

of one Gude King Hägar the Horrible of The Kingdome of Räknaar via a burning Viking longship into the depths of the Barren River Lake in Kentucky in 1994. Like the tormented though well-intended and motivated choreographers of that ceremony, we suspect that the Space Services folks did not pay proper homage to the Norse god Freyr. Goes around, comes around.

Despite the almost comedic denouement of the Space Services flight our fond memories of Scotty, Gordon Cooper and all 911 victims continue to reverberate throughout the universe. We say our special thanks to James Montgomery Doohan for making us

a little more appreciative of our origins and our sure future. Yes, they should have beamed Scotty up, Aye.

Special to *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* by Toly Turstin ●



1 Bangor was the new home of many loyalists, mostly Protestant Scottish planters during the Plantation of Ulster in the early 1600s. Even today, 83% of Bangor is Protestant and heavily identified with the Ulster-Scot community. We have noted that the Montgomeries have been integral to the history of Northern Ireland. While

Doohan's Catholic upbringing might initially confound us, the chances are greater than not that he has Scottish connections. TT

2 The Bren was a light machine gun manufactured by the Royal Small Arms Factory, Enfield, UK used by UK forces from 1938 until 1991 (Regulars) and until 2006 by Irish Reserve Defense Forces. This surely eliminates any of the reports that Doohan's wounds came from German sources. Wikipedia and Graves, Donald E. (2005). *Century of Service*. New York: Midpoint Trade Books Inc., p.244. ISBN 1896941435.

*If you'd like to advertise your business on **Beth's Newfangled Family Tree**
email: <bethscribble@aol.com>*

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Thursday: the Bear; Torchlight Ceremony; Sheep Herding and much more!

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sold only at the door).

Saturday, 7:00 AM Mountain Marathon begins in Boone, NC. Runners will arrive at Games track around 9:30 AM. Among the most strenuous marathons in the nation. 7:30 AM MacRae Meadows Opens * Amateur Heavy Athletic Qualifying Begins, Competition begins for Highland Dancing Atlantic International Championship, piping, drumming, Scottish athletic events, track & field events, Scottish country dancing, Scottish fiddling, and Scottish harp. Sheep Herding, Massed Bands on track, Opening Ceremonies, History & Genealogy Studies at Clan Tents,



For complete schedule, visit the website below!

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GMHG, P. O. Box 1095, Linville, NC 28646 * Phone: 828-733-1333 * Fax: 828-733-0092
<http://www.gmhg.org>



Lots o' Scots...Clan Macfie International gathering set for Sweden this July...

How many did you say???

Some 250,000 Scots migrated to America between 1820 and 1960. Today, some ten million people in America claim Scottish ancestry, many with names past and present well known in business, entertainment and politics. Amongst them Microsoft millionaire, Bill Gates, steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, former President Ronald Reagan and in the music/entertainment genre, Elvis Presley, Eminem, Johnny Cash, Glen Campbell, Robert Redford and John Wayne - to name a few. All of these - and many more - have Scottish connections. Neil Armstrong, John Glenn and Alan Bean at NASA are similarly connected. The 1946 edition of America's *Who's Who* claimed 41% of the American "elite" claimed Scottish heritage.

You might wish to read Duncan Bruce's book,

Mark of the Scots and then visit <ancestry.com.uk> for more Scottish contributors to America and more information on Scottish immigration.

With thanks to the *Clan Macfie News*, Clan Commander A.C. "Sandy" MacPhie, 76 Lindeman Ave., Heatley, Townsville, Q. 4814 Australia.

Clan Macfie International Gathering set for Sweden in July

The 16th International Gathering of Clan Macfie will be held in Sweden from July 5th through the 8th this year. Centered in Gustafsberg Badrestaurant in Uddevalla, the Clan Gathering is to be hosted by the Thorburn-Macfie Family Society in Sweden in conjunction with the Society's Triennial Family Reunion.

The Thorburn-Macfie Family Society was formed in 1937 when descendants of the original Scottish migrants, William Thorburn and his wife, Jessy Macfie (who arrived in Sweden 1823), decided to gather together regularly to commemorate the occasion.

International Gatherings of Clan Macfie are held in Scotland every four years in conjunction with the Clan Macfie Parliament when representatives of the Clan's nine Clan Societies from around the world hold business discussions. In the intervening two year term, the Clan Commander, Sandy McPhie of Townsville, Australia, normally approves a "mid-term" International Clan Gathering hosted by one of the Clan Societies outside Scotland to celebrate the Clan Macfie heritage. This year, it is in Sweden - 1979, 1983 and 1987 it was in Canada; in 1988 in Australia, then in the United States of America in 1991, 1995 and 2003.

For full details and to register as an attendee, contact: Clan Society President, Arne Wallin at Galsvagen 25, 245 63 Hjarup, Sweden. Call +46-40-463435 or email <fam.wallin@ln.se>.



This beautiful young lady was marching in the Parade of Tartans at Hendersonville last fall.