



Volume V No 11 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section B April 2012

Clans 2014! - An International Gathering of Clans planned for July 11 - 13, 2014 Stirling, Scotland

AFTER A LONG ANTICIPATION, IT IS OFFICIAL: Stirling Council has followed on to EventScotland's recent announcement of funding for Scotland's 2014 Year of Homecoming with a huge announcement of their own: Stirling will host an international gathering of clans, proposed for 11 - 13 July 2014 to coincide with the Sekonda Stirling Highland Games.

The 2014 clan gathering is envisioned to take place across a number of venues in Stirling, and is planned to feature: • Clans Village • Cavalcade procession between the Clan Village and the Castle • Entertainment on the Esplanade • A program of musical and other cultural events in other key venues.

From the looks of it, things are going to be absolutely hopping in Scotland in 2014, especially in Stirling. In addition to all of the regular cultural and entertainment events in the area, and in addition to Clans 2014 International Clan Gathering, Stirling Council plans to add the following events



in 2014: A packed Bannockburn 700 Weekend, featuring re-enactments, the official opening of the National Trust for Scotland's new Visitor Centre •

A potential youth arts festival and schools event • A "Stirling Tastes Good" food and drink festival in September • A potential angling festival.

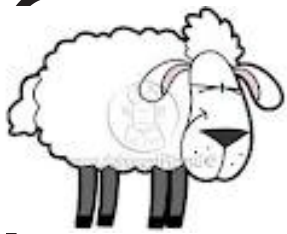
Of course, the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs has already committed host to a *nd International Clan Convention* to conduct the global business of the

Clans, in 2014, most likely also in Stirling and well coordinated with Clans 2014, Bannockburn 700 etc. COSCA and Standing Council will partner in America to ensure that American Scots are well integrated into all of the 2014 events, especially the Clan Convention.

This is going to be fun. Stay tuned for more info as it becomes available. Buy more luggage.

Go here to take a peek at Stirling Council's excellent 2014 website: <http://www.stirling2014.co.uk/>

Wishing you all a blessed Easter & a joyous spring



Site Seeing



This will make you smile for days!

[http://www.youtube.com/
watch?v=1kZW8e79Bm0&feature=player_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kZW8e79Bm0&feature=player_embedded)

It is interesting to note that *Flowers of the Forest* is an ancient Scottish folk tune. The original words are unknown, the melody was recorded about 1651-1625 in the John Skene of Halyards Manuscript as *Flowres of the Forrest*, though it may have been composed earlier. Several versions of the words have been added to the tune, including Jean Elliot's lyrics in 1756. Powerful solo bagpipe versions of the song are used at services of remembrance, funerals and other occasions; many know the tune simply as *The Lament*.

The Clan Macfie

2012 Colonsay Calendars

were a great hit and due to the response

we had to make another small order

and we have about 20 left,

and we will not be placing a reorder,

so if you did not get a 2012 Colonsay Calendar,

send \$17.00 for calendar and postage to:

Jim McAfee, 420 Ash Dr. , Baxter, TN 38544

Ginger McAfee, Macfie Clan Society of America

www.clanmacfieofamerica.com

Clan Annual Meeting At Pleasanton CA. Sept 1-2

Plan on attending the annual Clan Ramsay Association meeting which will be held in the Pleasanton California this year.

The games will be held over Labor Day weekend at the Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Liz Howe, Clan Ramsay's Nevada Commissioner has made arrangements with Larkspur Landing Hotel in Pleasanton for reservations. Reservations need to be in by August 9, 2012.

For more information about reservations, contact Liz Howe at <jandehowe@aol.com>.

CSSA sets AGM at Stone Mountain

Region 3 Clan Stewart Society in America will be hosting the 2012 CSSA AGM, October 18-21, at Stone Mountain Highland Games near Atlanta, Georgia.

There is a block of rooms at the Marriott Evergreen Conference Center for CSSA members attending the AGM. Please reserve your rooms asap. Call 1-888-670-2250 to request the CSSA group rate.

The Clan banquet will be held Saturday, October 20 at the Evergreen. The



Whisky Seminar planned for 2012 Scotland

County Games

A "stop the presses" announcement from Bill Caudill.

This year the Scotland County Highland Games will include a new Whisky Seminar and Tasting event. Hosted by a local afficianado, this event will feature high-end single malts with gourmet food pairings.....some serious good stuff here folks!

Watch our upcoming announcements and see our brochure to register. The event will be held at Downtown Deli 221 S. Main St., Laurinburg, on Friday afternoon October 5. 3 p.m. 6-8 single malts and gourmet food pairings plus great commentary and a definite good time.....\$25 per person. (Where you gonna get 6 shots for that price???.....not to mention good food with it!!).

cost is \$50 per person.

Full details, schedule and alternate lodging will be posted in the next *Fesse Chequy*, the clan newsletter.

For more information, contact Cathy Stewart Geiger, FSA Scot, at LStewart7@aol.com.



Clan Elliot Society, USA

Any person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot in any of its various spellings, including the spouse or descendant of such person, or any person who would like to be a friend of the Elliot Clan is welcome to join the group.

Please contact the treasurer for a membership form or visit <http://www.elliotclanusa.com/> for a form.

The Clan Elliot Society, USA
Treasurer is: **Patricia Tennyson Bell**,
2288 Casa Grande Street, Pasadena,
CA 91104.

Clan Gregor Society

**Sir Malcolm
MacGregor of MacGregor**
7th Baronet of Lanrick
and Balquidder,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor

*Great Lakes, New England,
Pacific North West, Western U.S.
and Southeast Chapters*

www.clangregor.org



For membership contact:

**PO Box 393,
Stone Mountain, GA 30083**

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,
Secretary,
Mo Dhachaidh,
2 Breachad Alloa,
Clackmannanshire,
FW102EW, Scotland

Visit the Clan Macfie FaceBook page

Glen Cathey has recently put up
The Official Clan Macfie FaceBook page
and it is ready for you to join and participate.

You can see some Youtube of the Clan Parliament at
Nethybridge. This is the link: [http://www.facebook.com/pages/
The-Official-Clan-Macfie-Page/177565770680](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Official-Clan-Macfie-Page/177565770680)

Clan Crawford Association

Incorporated to serve our members worldwide to preserve our legacy. Our Associates can assist you with surname related activities including events, DNA genealogy, heraldry, surname history and more.

Ralf Smart, Director, SE
803-425-5316 or general_ly@yahoo.com or
www.clancrawford.org



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334.501.0202 mcleod@scotpress.com



Clan Graham Society

If you are a Graham or Sept of Graham, you are cordially invited to share in a proud and noble heritage.

For application, write: **Clan Graham Society**

Norris Graham

PO Box 70

Yucca, AZ 06438-0070

www.clan-graham-society.org

Don't forget - Tartan Day is coming April 6!

Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc.

www.clandavidsonusa.com



COME JOIN US! The Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc. will be sponsoring an *International Gathering of Clan Davidson* on the 2nd weekend of June (**June 10, 11 & 12**), 2011. The event will be held in conjunction with the Kansas City Scottish Highland Games.

Richard Halliley, President
5650 Harmony Bend
Braselton, GA 30517
gahalliley@gmail.com

Dave Chagnon, Membership
7004 Barberry St.
North Little Rock, AR 72118
sennachie@earthlink.net

Clan Davidson Society, USA invites all Davidson's and Septs of the clan to membership:

Davey, Davie, Davis, Davison, Davisson, Daw, Dawson, Day, Dea(s), Dean, Deane, Deason, Dee, Desson, Devette, Dewis, Dey, Dow, Dye, Kay, Keay, Key, Keys, MacAdie, MacDaid, MacDavid, MacDavitt, MacKay, Slora, Slorach.

Flowers of the Forest

James Carr Grizzard passed away March 22, 2012 in Gainesville, Georgia after a lengthy illness.

Jimmy was a 1969 graduate of Oglethorpe University in Atlanta. He was an active figure in the Scottish community, and was well known throughout the south-east for his remarkable presentations of “Ode to a Haggis” and “Tam o’ Shanter” at Burns Night Dinners.

He was an active member in both the Burns Club, and the St. Andrews Society of Atlanta. Jimmy was a member of the 78th Fraser Highlanders, New Inverness Garrison, Atlanta, Georgia, where he was heard as the voice of the regiment at the highland games throughout the south.

He was a long time member of both Clan Donald and Clan Kerr, and served many years as President of the Kerr Family Association of North America.

He is survived by his wife, Corrine, brothers George King Grizzard of New Smyrna Beach, FL, Stephen Jones Grizzard of Clarkesville, GA; a sister, Jeannine Annette Grizzard of Ashland, Oregon; and nieces Virginia King Grizzard-Brierley of Los Angeles, CA and Elizabeth Jones Grizzard of Atlanta, GA.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that a donation be made to the charity of

ones choice in Jimmy’s memory.

Winton D. MacLennan, born May 26, 1937 on Prince Edward Island, Canada, passed away on February 18, 2012 after a long illness. Win was a long time member of Clan Donald through his mother (a MacArthur from Islay), and the past president of Clan MacLennan Association USA. He also was instrumental in forming the Keltae Society at David Lipscomb University, and was their first advisor.



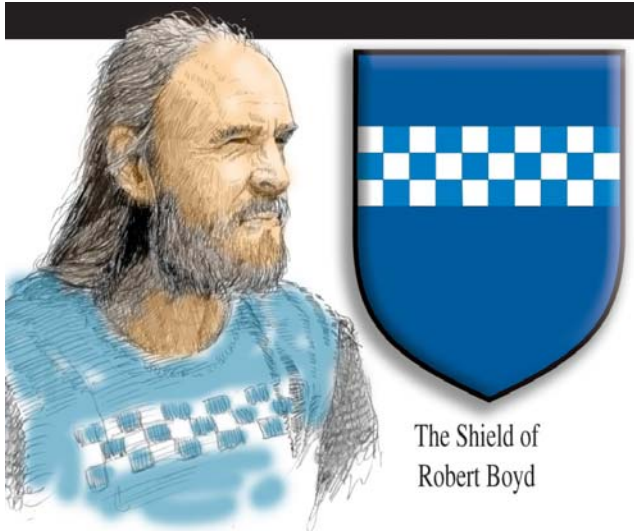
Zenna B. Childress, age 96, of Laurens, SC passed away in Laurens County Hospital on Sunday, January 29, 2012.

Mrs. Childress was born in Pool, W.VA. on April 20, 1915. She moved to South Carolina from Arizona to be nearer to her sons and their wives. after her husband, Grover Childress, passed away.

Mrs. Childress is believed to have been the oldest living relative of Bartholomew Ramsey, 1776-1843.

Mrs. Childress is survived by her two sons, James of Aiken, SC and Richard of Hendersonville, NC, three grandsons, Ty, Doug, and Greg Childress and three great-

Continued on page 8



The Shield of
Robert Boyd

A lifelong friend and close lieutenant to Robert the Bruce, Sir Robert Boyd heroically defended Castle Kildrummy and was an exemplar to all in the Scots' cause. He survived the years and faced harsh dangers in taking his country back from the English kings, and fought alongside his family's Stewart kinsmen at the Battle of Bannok Burn.

The epic story unfolds before you in the historical *Rebel King* novels. See them here:

REBELKING.COM

Flowers of the Forest, con't from page 7

granddaughters, Monique, Ainsley and Savannah..

A memorial service and graveside ceremonies were held at Phoenix Memorial Park, Phoenix, AZ where she will lie in quiet repose with her loving husband, Grover

Richard Sutherland Gary, FSA Scot, 76, of Swanton, Maryland, passed away last December 9. Mr. Sutherland was a life member of the Clan Stewart Society in America. He was a poet.

Alexander Pratt, 86, of Honolulu, Hawaii, died recently. Mr. Pratt was born near Glasgow, Scotland. He emigrated to Hawaii after WWII and worked as a carpenter. He was a life member of the Clan Stewart Society in America and was very active in the Scottish culture there in Hawaii.

Clan Blair Society

Membership cordially invited from Blair descendants
and other interested parties.

www.clanblair.org

President: Helen L. Blair
7516 E. Hermosa Vista Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85207-1110

President@clanblair.org



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715
ClanMembership@clanblair.org

Release of 1940 US Federal Census imminent



**Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian,
Fort Myers, Lee County Library**

Good Morning: I am sending this as a reminder about the upcoming release of the 1940 Federal census. While most of you probably already are aware of the significance of the event, I am including some tips gleaned from the National Archives and members of the Lee, Collier, and Charlotte County genealogical societies. Please be advised that what I am providing is an overview.

1. There is no current index of names. However, both Ancestry.com and Family Search will begin the process of creating a person name index to the census upon formal release to the public.

2. How long will this project take? There is no easy answer to this question. Both organizations are soliciting volunteers to assist in the project as well as other options. In my research on this issue, I've heard speculation ranging anywhere from one to ten years.

3. How can I locate ancestors without an index? Patrons must identify the enumeration district in which they lived in 1940 and browse the census population schedules for that specific district. The National Archives has placed pdf copies of the enumeration district maps and descriptions on their website under the classification NARA Online Public Access Catalog (OPA).

4. Where can I go to get more information on how to view these maps and other information to prepare my search strategy? As of to-

day, the best source to begin learning how to use the census is by visiting the following link <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/start-research.html> on the National Archives home page. This section discusses the release of the census and includes additional links, one of which will be to the NARA Online Public Access Catalog (OPA) mentioned in the previous tip.

5. Is there a source where I can find general information on the 1940 census including FAQ's and a listing of questions that were asked? The following link <http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/general-info.html> will provide this type of general information, FAQ's, and links to related information including tutorial videos compiled by archives personnel in conjunction with several professional genealogists. The FAQ's are especially important because it will provide additional information on important matters such as the codes that were added by the Bureau of Census after the enumerators shipped the census schedules to Washington. This section will also discuss fees if patrons need certified copies of pages relevant to their research.

Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian
Fort Myers-Lee County Library at 2050 Central Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917. Tel: (239) 533-4626; Fax: (239) 485-1160 or E-Mail: Bryan at Bmulcahy@leegov.com

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Hispanic Genealogical Society of Southern California

PO Box 2472

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-0472

<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/GSHA.htm>

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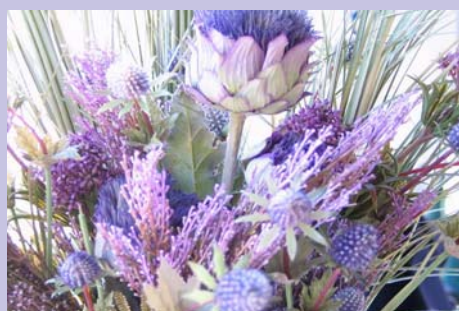
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Celtic Music Talent Set for the 19th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games

HUNTERSVILLE, NC: Rural Hill announced the Celtic music talent set to perform at the 19th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games April 21 & 22. International and regional groups and individuals will headline the weekend's festivities including Celtic rock groups the **Rogues** and **Rathkeltair**, the hard-driving Texas Celtic sounds of **Clandestine**, and traditional Celtic musicians **Ed Miller**, **Jil Chambless** and **John Taylor**. Complete schedules, event information and advance tickets are available online at www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net.

Fun for the entire family, the Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games weekend offers professional Scottish heavy athletic competition, amateur heavy athletics, piping and drumming, highland dancing, Scottish country dancing, children's activities, demonstrations and Rural Hill's famous historic encampment. Returning this year are the "Kids Zone" and the popular Celtic Rock Music Stage including the Saturday evening concert. The Advance 2-day (Sat. & Sun.) discount ticket is \$25.00 and includes admission to the Saturday night concert. Complete information and advance ticket purchases are available online at www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net.

If the 78th Fraser Pipe Band sat down with the Waterboys, the Chieftains, the Rolling Stones, and the Dave Matthews Band, and then asked some friends from a symphonic orchestra to join them at the table the resulting sound might begin to resemble the **Rogues**. For nearly two decades the performances of this CeltRock Folk Classical group have electri-



fied audiences on two continents. They have added to their ever-growing family of fans — affectionately known as the *Rogue Army* — at music festivals, theaters, Highland Games, renaissance festivals, clubs, pubs, and corporate events — anywhere that presents top-quality, high-energy music. This has even included regular rotation on satellite radio. Their hard won road successes have established them as artists with bona fide international acclaim.

Rathkeltair blends compelling and catchy original songs with tight, driving straight-ahead rock-n-roll, while never forgetting its Celtic roots. Based in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, and highly regarded for its extraordinary energy, showmanship and professionalism, Rathkeltair enjoys a loyal and rapidly expanding community of friends and fans. Rathkeltair features three veteran road-warriors from England, Northern Ireland and America. Noted singer-songwriter/guitarist Trevor Tanner, former front man for The Bolshoi, a mainstay of the UK club scene at the height of the MTV era and the subject of a rabid international underground cult following, writes most of the band's original material. Drummer Nick Watson (formerly of the Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band) and bagpiper/multi-instrumentalist Neil Anderson are two of the original members of Clan Na Gael (7 Nations), the NYC-based band that kicked off the "kilt rock" phenomenon in the US in the mid-90's and inspired many of the groups working in that genre today.

Clandestine is hard-driving, toe-tapping



Continued on page 15

Clan Sinclair Association, Inc., (USA)



7 ft. x 9 ft. tent panel created by Heraldic Artist, Tom Freeman, for the 2009 Gathering in Edinburgh.

Clan Sinclair Association, Inc. (U.S.A.)



Do you know who came to North America
almost 100 years before Columbus' famous voyage?

Prince Henry Sinclair in 1398!

Come join (and enjoy) your Sinclair family

President

Melvin Sinclair

224 Bransfield Road

Greenville, SC 296715

864-268-3550

Mel@ClanSinclairSC.org



Membership Contact

Alta Jean Ginn

12147 Holly Knoll Circle

Great Falls, VA 22066

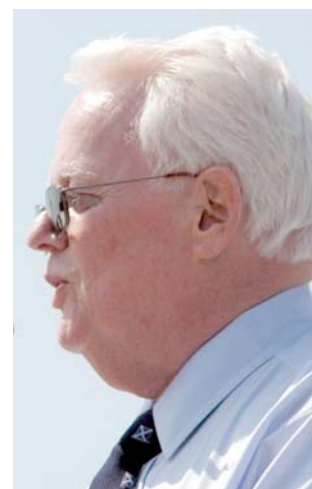
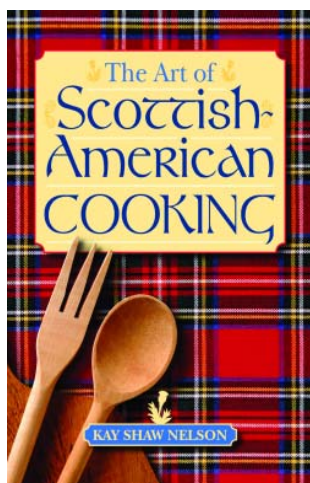
703-430-6745

aginn@cox.net

A Highlander And His Books....

The Art of Scottish-American Cooking

Kay Shaw Nelson



REVIEWED By
FRANK R. SHAW, FSA SCOT,

Like many of you, I have had the privilege of enjoying some great meals in America, Europe and the United

us *The Art of Scottish-American Cooking*. Anything but a novice in the kitchen, this author of 20 cookbooks gives us a wealth of Scottish-American recipes. She takes us through the alphabet of Scottish food from Annapolis Deviled Crab to

Williamsburg Spoon Bread, touching on all points in between. The list makes you want to go back to Scotland and put your knees under a Scot-

tish table or venture to that favorite part of America where the Scots left their culinary marks.

In Kay Shaw Nelson's cookbook you will learn about Scottish men and women who impacted our eating habits in the United States. You might be surprised at the list: John McIntosh (apple); Mary Johnson (hand-cranked ice-cream freezer); Philip Armour (Armour & Co.); Rev. Sylvester Graham (Graham cracker); Joseph Campbell (soups); another Campbell family along with the Hutchinson family (Moon Pie, one of my favorites as a child along with an RC Cola); David Jack (Monterey Jack cheese); Julia Child (cookbooks and television shows); Rev. Elijah Craig (Bourbon whiskey, my kind of minister!); Dr. James Crow, (Old Crow Bourbon whiskey); and let's not forget James Beard and Craig Claiborne (a Scotch egg lover) who probably did more to *refine* the food tastes of America than any other two people. These folks all have one thing in common – they are Scots or have Scottish ancestors.

One of my favorite recipes in this book is

Kingdom, especially in Scotland. Yes, Scotland! Scottish food gets a bad rap by some, but I can tell

you they have never had the opportunity to dine in the home of Angus Tracey on the Black Isle to the delight of his poached salmon, in the kitchen of Clan Shaw Chief, John Shaw of Tordarroch, where his wife Sylvia served the most delicious roasted chicken you've ever tasted, sat at the table of Ken and Jean Cox a few miles down the road from Culloden for a full Scottish meal, feast on Jamie and Meta Scarlett's Scottish venison at their Milton of Moy home, stay at Dunain Park Hotel just outside Inverness and enjoy as good a breakfast prepared by Chef Anne Nicol (nee Shaw) as there is anywhere or stand in line at her nightly sideboard filled with scrumptious homemade desserts, or eat the most succulent lamb one could ask for in the Edinburgh home of Robert and Pauline MacGillivray. So much for the naysayers!

Now along comes Kay Shaw Nelson with a cookbook that speaks to every Scottish-American heart. She has done the world, and Scottish Americans in particular, a great favor by giving

jurascot@earthlink.net

Interesting History of John Blair

(written by Bob Blair, John Blair's Great Grand Nephew)

John Blair 15 November 1803-6 March 1836

John was the second oldest son of Thomas Blair and Polly Wall Blair. Although it has been often stated that John was from Tennessee, the Blair family was in the Cape Girardeau, Missouri area by 1806. John may have been born in Georgia before the family moved or possibly in Missouri. If he was born in what is now Missouri, he was one of the first Americans born in Louisiana Purchase land. The treaty had been signed in Paris in April but was ratified by the United States congress just a month before John's 1803 birth date. John's family was typically large and he had six brothers and two sisters. The family was Methodist and John's father was one of the

charter members of the first congregation west of the Mississippi at McKendree Chapel near Jackson, Missouri. John's middle name is not known but several of his brothers are middle named after prominent Methodist bishops of the time. His physical appearance is not known but the Blairs were typically of fair complexion, freckled, tall, lanky and had red hair.

The Blair family had likely come to America sometime after the Highland clearances of the eighteenth century and via Antrim county, Ireland. John's father, Thomas, is thought to have been born in Georgia around the time of the *Declaration of Independence*. The family may have been descendants

of Scottish cattle drovers as cattle have been a part of the lives of most of the subsequent generations of Blairs.

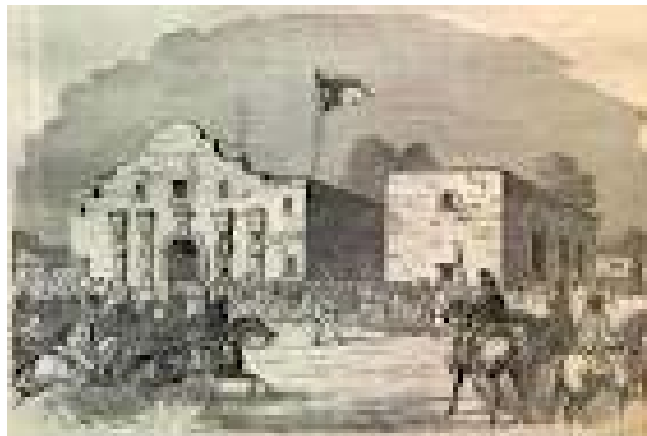
John was less than one year old when Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set off from St. Louis to explore the northwest. He would have been startled at age eight by the first violent tremors of the New Madrid earthquake centered just about fifty miles south and would

have been astounded to find out that the quake opened large chasms on the land and had changed the course of the mighty river. He would have also witnessed the Great Comet of 1811 and a solar eclipse in September of the same year.

The young John may have been enthralled by stories of Zebulon Pike, Colter, Sparks, Freeman and, of course, Lewis and Clark exploring new lands and having unimaginable adventures. Living on the Mississippi in the early 1800s

meant that he would have been exposed to fur traders and adventurers like Manuel Lisa, Auguste and Pierre Choteau, Mike Fink and other men enthusiastically pursuing

their fortunes on the river. He may even have been an excited witness to the first steamboat, The New Orleans, traversing the Mississippi. As a teenager, he saw Missouri become a state in 1820.



With thanks to the
Blair Bruidhinn

Continued on page 17

Music at Loch Norman, *continued from page 11*

Texas Celtic sound. Formed in 1991, the band is known for their brand of blasting tune sets and fresh songs. Piper EJ Jones and fiddler Gregory McQueen lead the tunes with the full force of their individual musical energies. Al Cofrin brings cittern and occasionally another set of bagpipes to the mix. Percussionist and singer Emily Dugas captivates with her original song collaborations with Al, as well as her singular interpretations of songs in the Celtic genre. EJ and Al also join Emily on vocals, with many songs now set in three-part harmony.



Ed Miller has been hailed as “one of the finest singers to come out of the Scottish Folksong Revival” and as “one of Scotland’s best singing exports.” Originally from Edinburgh, he has for many years been based in Austin, TX where he gained graduate degrees in Folklore and Geography at the University of Texas. Ed has recorded 8 CD’s of Scottish songs.



Jil Chambless is without a doubt one of America’s top Celtic music vocalists and musicians. A native of Montgomery, AL, Jil was first introduced to Celtic music in the 1980s when she met the Tuscaloosa, Alabama based band, Henri’s Notions, and the rest is history. During her tenure, the Notions have completed four recording projects and performed nationally at concerts and festivals. Under the production magic of Scottish legend Brian McNeill (founder of the Battlefield Band, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and producer) Jil has finished the recording of her first solo CD. Jil performs with Henris Notions as well as a trio setting with Scottish singer Ed Miller and the Notion’s Scooter Muse.



John Taylor is a fiddler and composer from Buckie in Scotland and a past winner of the Niel Gow award for Scottish fiddling. Taylor is well known in Scottish country dance circles having appeared in many parts of the world including the USA, Canada, New Zealand and various parts of the UK. He has recorded specific country dance music CDs with Andrew Imbrie and has often appeared with Texas-based folk singer, Ed Miller. In a review of their first collaboration, *The Edinburgh Rambler*, the *Austin American-Statesman* called Taylor “brilliant.”



THE HENDERSON'S ARE COMING!

The Clan Henderson Society will be represented at the following games during April:

o **13-15 APR: SCOTTISH**

FESTIVAL, BATESVILLE, AR

o **14 APRIL: SCOTS-IRISH FESTIVAL, LEXINGTON, VA**

o **14 APR: TARTAN DAY, FREMONT, CA**

o **20-22 APR: LOCH NORMAN IN HUNTERSVILLE, NC**

o **21 APR: SCOTTISH GAMES, BAKERSFIELD, CA**

o **27-29 APR: IRON THISTLE, YUKON, OK**

91st Clan Macneil AGM set for 57th GMHG this July

The Clan Macneil AGM will be held in conjunction with the 57th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games which are planned for July 12 - July 15, 2012 near Linville, North Carolina.

2nd Annual Rim Country Celtic Festival

April 14 & 15th, 2012

Payson, AZ Elks Lodge

1206 Beeline Hwy

Admission

Adults: \$10.00

Children: 6 – 16 \$5.00

Under 6: Free

Saturday: 9 am til 5 pm

Opening Ceremony: 12 noon

Sunday: 9 am til 4:00 pm

Kirking of the Tartan

Many clans will be represented
and there will be

vendors of Celtic wares
entertainers
musicians
& dancers

*American and Celtic foods
will be available*

Genealogy help will also be available

Pres: Lloyd D Gibson @ 575 649 5015

web: www.rimcountrycelts.org

web: <http://rimcountrycelts.webs.com>

e-mail: rimcountrycelts@earthlink.net

The AGM will be from 6-8 PM on Friday, July 13 at the Banner Elk Presbyterian Church, Banner Elk, NC.

The Clan Macneil Council Meeting will be held there at 2 PM, Friday, July 13.

For info on GMHG, contact Cheryl Farthing at highland@m-y.net.



The Shield of
Thomas Randolph
as Earl of Moray



Captured at Methven in the debacle that all but ended the reign of Robert the Bruce, the king's nephew Thomas Randolph was forced by his captors to track his king and the Army of Bruce. His heart still yearned for Scotland to be free, and at Loudoun Plain, he calmly turned his back to the English and rode across the battlefield to rejoin the Scots and stand against Edward's army.

Find out more about the epic story at...

REBELKING.COM

MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc. Of Clan MacFie

Organized July 1962

Registrar:
Marty Rosser
336-275-8619
martyrosser50@aol.com

Annual General Meeting each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

Genealogy Chairman: Richard Ledyard
865-671-2555 rledyard@tds.net

Treasurer: David Nathan McDuffie
678-557-9215 dnmcduffie@hotmail.com



As young John Blair approached adulthood he would have surely heard tales of the opportunities in the new land of Texas. It was said that men could go there and be all but given great tracts of good land with abundant water and agreeable climate. He met and married a young lady who was possibly named Mary. And so it is against this backdrop of the excitement of new exploration, fortunes to be made, and being responsible for making your own way in a bright new world, that John and Mary set off for Texas.

John Blair was a dreamer like so many others who, before him and after him, settled new lands. Like most who undertake such an intoxicating new experience, they discounted the reports of brutal Commanche attacks, stifling hot summers, freezing blue northers, deadly rattlesnakes, clouds of biting insects and alternating seas of mud and impenetrable dust storms filtering out of the new land. They probably assumed they could continue their devotion to their Methodist faith while paying mere lip service to the requirement that they convert to Roman Catholicism as a condition of immigration. This requirement would not have been popular with the rest of the devout Methodist Blair family and was likely a significant point of contention prior to the couple's departure.

It is not known when they arrived in eastern Texas but John registered as a married man for one league of land (4,428 acres) in Zavala's Colony on February 19, 1835. John and Mary had dreams of hundreds of valuable beeves grazing on their league of land, raising a large family and living a long, comfortable life as Texans. In less than a year that dream would be smashed

forever by the war of the Texas revolution.

John dutifully joined the revolution and went to Bexar as a Private with Colonel James Bowie. He may have served as a fourth cannoneer with Parrott's artillery battery but later followed Bowie into the Alamo. In the election at the Alamo on February 1, 1836, John voted for Samuel Maverick and Jesse Badgett to be delegates to the convention for Texas independence. If there was a line in the sand, John stepped across it. Louis Rose later testified that

he had left John Blair behind inside the fortress. John was one of the defenders of the Alamo who stood with Travis, Bowie and Crockett and made the ultimate sacrifice for the independence of their new country.

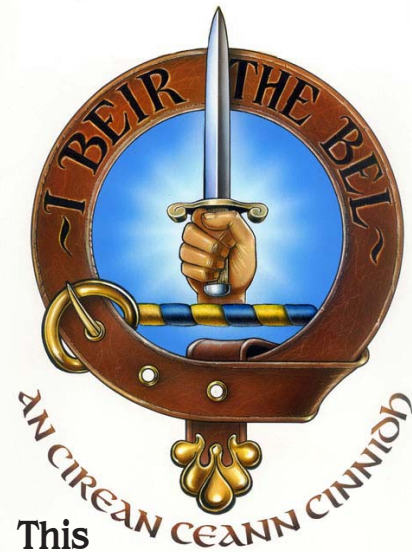
A few years later, Thomas Milligan Blair,

John's older brother, came to Texas with the family's power of attorney to claim the land that the grateful republic had awarded John's siblings for his service and sacrifice. In May of 1854, the family of John Blair, received a land patent which had been secured by John M. Stephen. On January 12, 1855, John's family made a warrantee deed to Mister Stephen for the land, which became the town of Stephenville, Texas. Even though it does not bear his name, the city of Stephenville is a fitting tribute to John Blair and the other Texan heroes who died with him at the Alamo.

****Footnote: This representation of the life of John Blair-Defender of the Alamo is based on both documented and non-documented sources and should not be used as any kind of factual documentation for any facet of his life or the lives of any other members of the Blair family. It is merely an attempt to paint a more human impression of this well-known Blair ancestor whose service was instrumental in the Texas revolution.*



Clan Bell International



This old West Marche Clan, one of Border clans since the early 1100s, were retainers of the Great House of Douglas and also allied with the best border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive, and to survive, they engaged in the "rieving" of the period and participated in many battles against the English.

Declared "unruly" by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan emigrated to the Ulster Plantation after 1610.

After William Bell, called *Redcloak* and Chief of the Clan died in 1628, the chiefship became dormant, and without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell International (CBI) in the United States represents Clan Bell world-wide with a coordinated network of 20 International Representatives, each representing the Clan in their own country.

CBI is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBI cordially invites membership inquiries from persons Named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Quarterly newsletter published. Tents hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast.

President:

William H. Bell

2322 Shadow Hill Drive
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clanbellusa@sbcglobal.net

Visit our Web site:

clanbell.org

Membership Secretary:

Alta Jean Ginn

12147 Holly Knoll Circle
Great Falls, VA 22066

aginn@cox.net

Scotch Fried Chicken. You'll enjoy letting your friends know that one of the "great Scottish contributions to the American cuisine is fried chicken." As documented in their travel books, in 1773 on the Isle of Skye, Dr. Johnson and James Boswell "were served fried pullets" (a young chicken which we seldom killed in SC during my childhood since they would eventually become hens). Immigrants to the Carolinas from Skye carried this recipe with them. I still recall my mother's Sunday fried chicken as a boy growing up in Mullins, South Carolina, and I now know that my ancestors came up the Cape Fear River from the Isle of Jura to settle in what is now Bladen County, North Carolina. Jura was not that far from the Isle of Skye.

There is also mention of literature in Kay's recipes with quotes from the big three - Scott, Stevenson and Burns. In reference to the lowly herring, Sir Walter Scott wrote, "It's nae fish ye're buying, it's men's lives." He made it clear that he liked his salmon plain and simple for he wrote, "The most judicious gastronomes eat no other sauce than a spoonful of the water in which the salmon has been boiled, together with a little pepper and vinegar." This great entertainer, who hosted hundreds of people over his life time at Abbottsford, had a fondness for desserts and once described them as "a fairy feast of cream, jellies, strawberries, almond-cream, and lemon cream." How many know that Robert Louis Stevenson spoke of Scotland's most famous Scottish oatmeal dish, porridge, with a "they"? Listen up, "*They're* fine, halesome food, *they're* grand food, parritch." We are familiar with Robert Burns' tribute "*To A Haggis*" but Burns speaks of porridge as "The halesome parritch, Chief of Scotia's food." Burns, known to take a wee dram or two, enjoyed the "social glass" as he called the national drink, Scotch whisky. I've read a lot of Scott and Burns and some Stevenson but never realized their love of food as Kay has so excellently presented throughout her book.

I've often heard there are two kinds of people in this world – those who are Scottish and those

who wish they were! This book gives credence to that statement. Many of us have ridden through the beautiful Scottish Highlands, so buckle up; you're set for another great ride! Kay Shaw Nelson has given us a wonderful collection of Scottish-American recipes. This book is a tribute to Scottish-American people. There is not a page in this book without interest - it is Scottish-American food at its best!

I do not say this about a lot of books I review, but *The Art of Scottish-American Cooking* is worthy of your purchase. You will be tempted to consider it as a gift to yourself, for your family, and for your friends on their birthdays and at Christmas. Simply put, this book is nothing but a taste of friendship and love, Scottish-American style. I've eaten at Kinloch Lodge on the Isle of Skye where one of Scotland's most celebrated chefs and writers of cookbooks holds court. I have fond memories of that luncheon with Susan, my wife, and friends, Susan and David Shi of Furman University. The food was excellent, but with all due respect I have to say, "Move over, Lady MacDonald. There's another writer in town!"

Purchase price of this hardcover book is \$21 at www.pelican.com or you may call 1-800-843-1724. The media mail rate is \$2.95, plus 50 cents for each additional book shipped. ISBN 978-1-58980-386-2.

And I close this review with a recipe to further whet your appetite –

Etta MacKay's Salmon Dip

8 oz. cream cheese, softened

½ cup sour cream

1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice

¾ cup minced smoked salmon

2 tbsp. snipped fresh chives

Salt and freshly ground white pepper, to taste

In a medium bowl combine cheese, sour cream, and lemon juice; blend well. Add salmon and chives. Season with salt and pepper. Blend well. Refrigerate, covered, until ready to serve as a dip for raw vegetables or with oatcakes. Makes about two cups.

Robert Burns' local pub, The Crook Inn, saved by people power

The Crook Inn, in Tweedsmuir. Picture: Phil Wilkinson. *The Scotsman*, published on Wednesday 21 March 2012

One of Scotland's oldest and most historic inns, famous for its literary connections with the likes of Robert Burns and John Buchan, will reopen its doors to the public after six years.

The 400-year-old Crook Inn, in Tweedsmuir, in the Borders, one of the first licensed establishments in Scotland, was closed in 2006 when the owner attempted, unsuccessfully, to convert it into homes.

Following a campaign by locals to keep the pub in its original form, the Tweedsmuir Community Company (TCC) has provisionally agreed to buy the premises and carry out any necessary renovations.

However, the community must first raise the £160,000 needed by the end of the year.

During this period the TCC will have access to the property to examine it and gain estimates for repair work and apply for funding.

James Welch, director of TCC, said: "It has been part of the community for so many years.

"It was one of those fairly historic landmarks that people used to stop at going north or south for lunch or a coffee.

"But for the community, it also provided one of the most valuable things: a source of employment in an area where there are few other opportunities."

The inn proved to offer literary inspiration

for Burns, who was a regular, and was where he wrote his poem *Willie Wastle's Wife*. Buchan also frequented the pub during the time he wrote the adventure novel, *The Thirty Nine Steps*, and immortalised the hostelry in his short story, *Gideon Scott*.

However, the pub, which was also a favourite



Continued on page 25

Clan Colquhoun Society Of NA

2984 Mike Drive

Marietta, GA 30064

sijepuis@bellsouth.net

Colquhoun/Calhoun, Cowan, MacClintock, MacManus. Applications available online at http://www.geocities.com/clancolquhoun_na/home.html



Clan Sutherland Society of North America



Septs and Associated Families:
Cheyne, Clyne, Duffus, Federith,
Gray, Keith, Mowat, Murray, Oliphant.

For membership information, please visit our website at
www.clansutherland.org

You may contact
the president:

George Sutherland
9613 Highstream Court
Charlotte, NC 28269

Clan Chief,
Lady Elizabeth,
Countess of Sutherland



Elizabeth Sutherland, Countess of Sutherland
Chief of Clan Sutherland

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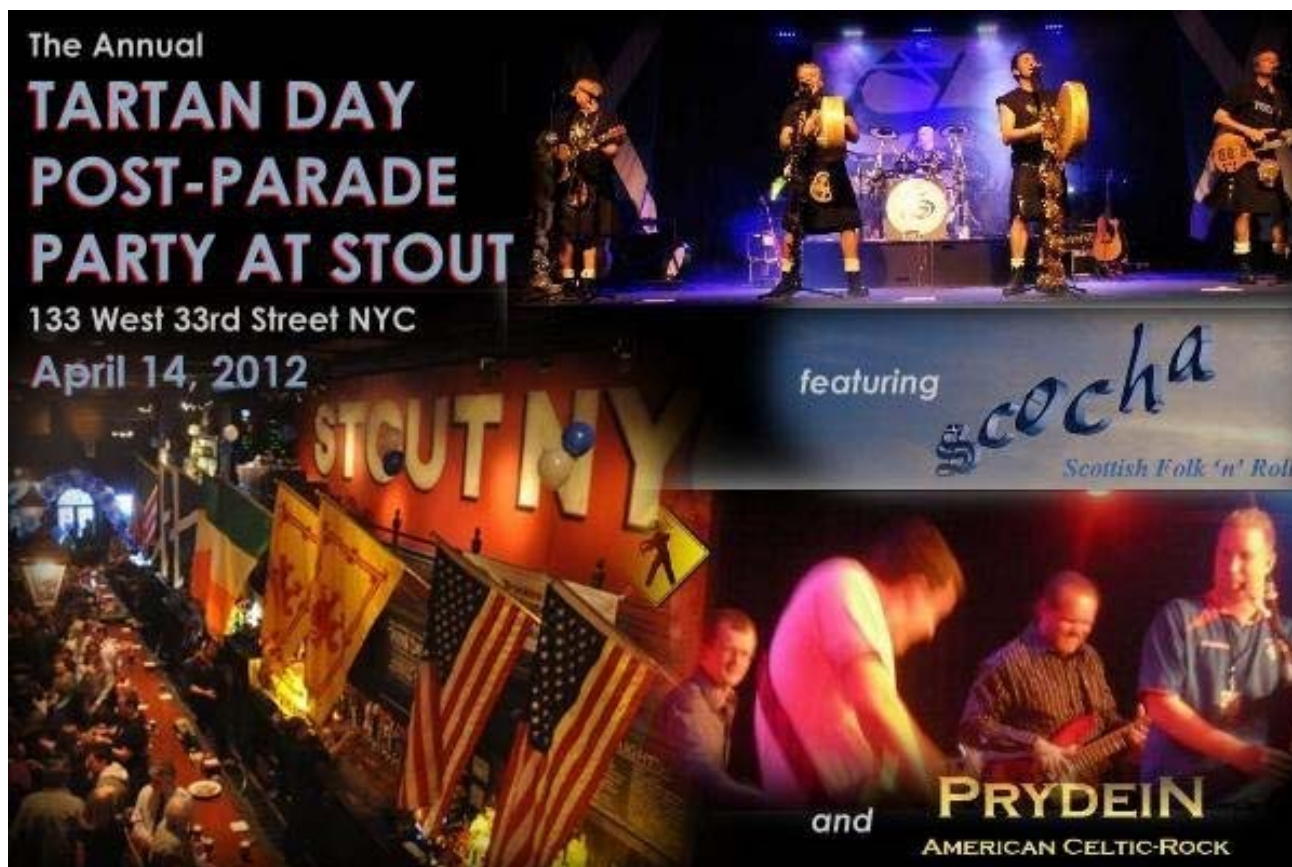
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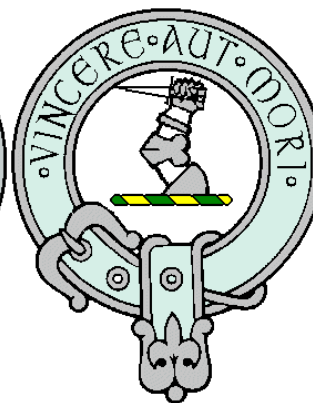
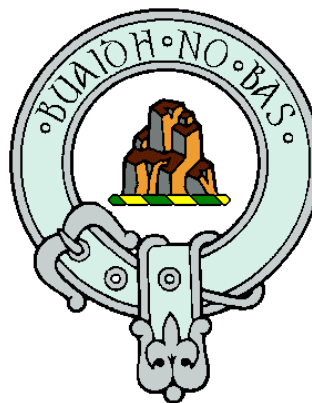
Stout, 133 West 33rd Street, Manhattan (half-block from Penn Station)

To purchase online, go to: www.tartanweek.com

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If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept names, then you have found the clan you are looking for!

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- McNeil
- Mcniel
- McNiel
- Mcneill
- McNeill
- Mcneal
- McNeal
- Mcneale
- McNeale
- McNeilage
- Mcneilage
- McNelly
- Mcnelly
- McNeally
- Mcneally
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- Neall
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- Macgrail
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- McGrail
- McGrail
- Mcgrail
- Mcgrail
- McGugan
- Macgugan
- McGuigan
- ...and
- Mcguigan

The Crook Inn, continued from page 20



haunt of Scott, has fallen into disrepair since it was shut in 2006.

Duncan Davidson, chairman of TCC, said: "It's in a very bad state, partly because it had dry rot, which is being treated, but also there have been burglaries and people going in and stripping out metal from the place. It's not fit for use."

Mr Welch said the final bill for the restoration would far exceed the £160,000 asking price. "We'll be looking at a considerably greater investment to bring it back," he said.

"It wouldn't surprise me if it was several hundred thousand pounds to carry out a full restoration."

A spokesperson for Historic Scotland, which has given the property a Class-C category, said: "Keeping a building in use is the best way to protect its long-term survival."

Background

Established as a licensed premises in 1604 and as a place for drovers to rest while taking cattle from the Borders to markets in England, the Crook Inn has had a colourful history.

During the 17th century, a falling out with the local minister led to the town's congregation being locked out of the church and the pub became a temporary kirk. The building also became a Presbyterian meeting house when Covenanters were being hunted.

Robert Burns was a regular at the inn and it was there he wrote his famous poem *Willie Wastle's Wife* in 1792. But it was during the mid-19th century the place became an established favourite with the Edinburgh literati, who would go walking in the nearby hills.

Scots author John Buchan also frequented the pub during the time he penned his novel *The Thirty Nine Steps*, and he immortalised it in his short story

Ramsay castle sold for £5 million

A wealthy former vicar has bought Dalhousie Castle for the knock-down fee of £5 million (\$7,921,000).

Entrepreneur Robert Parker, who owns a luxury hotel chain, has purchased the "haunted" Lothians castle for around half of what it cost ten years ago, it was reported in the British press.

The 13th century building, near Bonnyrigg in Midlothian, has 29 bedrooms and is a popular site for weddings.

The castle is said to be haunted by a 16th century ghost.

It had been on the market for around £7.5m following the collapse of Von Essen Hotels last year, but Mr Parker, who was a vicar for two decades before moving into business, is thought to have bid successfully with a figure well below that.

Dalhousie, the historic seat of the Ramsays, was converted to a hotel in 1972.

Dalhousie is not where the current Clan Chieftan lives. The Rt. Hon. James Ramsay 17th Earl of Dalhousie, lives in Brechin Castle.

The grounds of Brechin Castle have been in the Maule-Ramsay family since the 12th century.

The castle has been the seat of the Clan Maule since medieval times.

Continued on page 27

about poaching, *Gideon Scott*.

According to the Historic Scotland, the current property dates back to the early 19th century, incorporating the remains of its earlier incarnations along with Art Deco additions from 1936.

Would you like for your clan to be represented in these pages?

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| Macchruter | Macquyer | Yule |
| Maccolman | Macquinten | Zuill |



For membership information, contact:
bethscribble@aol.com

Ramsay Castle, *continued from page 24*



The Maule and Ramsay clans were joined under a single chieftain in the 18th century. The seat of the Ramsay clan was moved from Dalhousie Castle to Brechin Castle in the early 20th century.

For hundreds of photos of Dalhousie castle visit this web site: <http://tinyurl.com/7s9ayu>

2012 Clan MacNicol Worldwide Gathering set for Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

The Clan MacNicol Society Australia announces with great pleasure that it will host the 2012 Worldwide Clan Gathering October 12 through Sunday, October 14 in Launceston, Tasmania - springtime in Australia.

For complete information, please email Mal Nicolson at malnico@bigpond.com or write to him via airmail: Po Box 243, Gynea, NSW, 2227, Australia.

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The telephone number to call is 1-877-367-5982. This is a good number to put in your cell phone.

Below is the website that details what they provide.

<http://transportation.ky.gov/Incident-Management/Pages/Safe-Patrol.aspx>



The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons and those interested in these surnames

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the state of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from U.S. federal income tax.

On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Scotland granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left on this page. Our motto “SEMPER INVICTUS” can be translated as “Always Unconquered”.

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society:

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest, and genealogy via our newsletter *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Groziers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling) and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for 2 years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application email Peter Armstrong at peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>. Note: “spouse” on the application includes: spouse; domestic partner; or any other adult living at the same address.



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To see the many names on the Clan Donald sept/allied family list, please visit:

<http://www.clan-donald-usa.org>



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