



Vol. 10 No. 7 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A January 2017

## Santa photographed at last!



*The REAL Santa finally caught for a photo with a few of his elves, one Senior Elf (in the green sleeved top) and one "Beginner Elf" (with the red striped sleeves)!*

*Santa must be a member of Clan Anderson because of his Anderson belt!*



## Comrie in Perthshire beneficiary of WWII German prisoner's Will

A Perthshire village has received £638,900 in lottery funding, days after a former German prisoner of war left it his entire estate.

Comrie Development Trust has been awarded the Heritage Lottery Funding to restore 11 World War Two Nissen Huts at Cultybraggan.

Heinrich Steinmeyer, who was held in the POW camp there in 1944, recently left the trust £384,000 in his Will.

Ten of the huts will be converted into self-catering accommodation.

The 11<sup>th</sup> will be restored as a common room displaying the history of the camp, which was built in 1941 and had the capacity to hold 4,500 inmates.

It was a category "A" camp, designed to hold German prisoners who were regarded as committed Nazis.

Mr Steinmeyer, a former member of the Waffen SS, left his entire estate to the village of Comrie, to help its elderly people, as gratitude for the "kindness" he was shown during his internment.



Hope your New Year is Wonderful!



**Beth Gay Freeman, LOK, FSA Scot**  
Editor, photographer, etc.  
bethscribble@aol.com

**Alastair McIntyre,**  
electricscotland.com  
<http://www.electricscotland.com>

**Tom Freeman**  
Graphic designer  
bansheeherald@yahoo.com

**Beth's Newfangled Family Tree**  
<http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft>

**Send articles, photographs  
anytime to:  
[bethscribble@aol.com](mailto:bethscribble@aol.com)**

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New issue is "up"  
about the 1st of each month*

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**The Clan Henderson Society at the 2016 Alexandria Christmas Walk**

*Letter from your Editor*

# Let's "Play Like" we're *The Jetsons!*



I remember watching all of the miraculous happenings on the old cartoon (It was so NEW then!) called *The Jetsons*. Do you remember the cars that flew, the meals that appeared from the box on the wall...the cityscape of their home town, too?

Instead of New Year's Resolutions, I thought it would be fun to look at some of the inventions in our future...and, amazingly, they exist NOW.

The only place I've "seen" flying cars has been in novels by J.D. Robb, aka Nora Lofts, in her futuristic books about the police detective Eve Dallas.

**The flying car is here!** There is a company called Terrafugia. They have produced the Transition®, a two-place, fixed wing, street legal airplane. Imagine flying into your next meeting, and parking your flying car in the garage later!

**Hoverboards** were a key component of the film *Back to the Future*, and they are one of the first things most people think about when they wonder about all of the futuristic ideas we were promised.

Lucky for us, the hoverboard is about to be real, and for just \$10,000, it can be yours, through this Kickstarter from Hendo Hoverboards.

Hendo was founded by Greg Henderson, who patented a technology called Magnetic Field Architecture (MFA™) to make hoverboards a reality. But unlike Marty McFly's version, these boards are for more than just tool-

ing around town. They may one day be employed to help prop up precarious buildings in disaster zones. The future is definitely here!

**Nanotechnology** is the manipulation of matter on an atomic, molecular, and supramolecular scale, and the field has plenty of possibilities in a number of areas, including medicine and energy production. At GE, scientists have worked to create polymer-based nanoparticles that can target and kill MRSA.

**Soylent** is a company with a simple proposition: "What if you never had to worry about food again?" While Soylent is a nutrition shake and not a pill, it still promises complete nutrition in powdered form.

But will Soylent catch on with a public hungry for delectable treats? Time will tell.

We all know about Dolly the sheep, the first successful mammalian clone. But did you know there's a South Korean company that for a hefty fee (around \$100,000 to be exact) will **clone your beloved dog?** It's true -- Sooam Biotech will supply you with an exact genetic replica of your beloved pooch.

Holy Cow! What an exciting time to be alive and able to enjoy the amazing future we have in store! Happy New Year!



# The Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and septs CARISON, CARNEY/ C A R N I E , CURRIEHILL, DYAS, DYCE, DYER, HALL, H A L Y A R D / H A L L Y A R D , MacGAILLARD, RENNIE & SKAINS.

**Al McGalliard, president**  
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Gray, GA 31032  
<alsrx95@gmail.com>



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# Alien Registration Records very helpful

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS

Alien registration records are a valuable and under utilized source of personal information for millions of immigrants who settled in America at various time periods throughout American history. Alien registration records are an excellent source of family history information on U.S. immigrants who were not naturalized citizens which was far more common from a historical perspective. In 1798, the Quasi War with France resulted in Congress mandating the registration of all male citizens, age 14 and up, of any nation at war with the United States.

During the years of 1802-1828, all aliens were required to register with local courts of record. The War of 1812 and its immediate aftermath saw a new requirement directed at British aliens to report to the U.S. Marshall in their state or territory. They were required to furnish proof of their name, age, length of residence in the United States, names of all family members, place of residence, occupation, and whether that had applied for naturalization.

Under the 1929 Alien Registration Act, aliens were required to register their current residence and place of employment yearly with local federal agencies and courts. They were also required to carry an identification card with them to be considered legal aliens. Failure to comply would result in immediate deportation without any hearing. Many aliens also carried certificates of lawful entry, and certificates of arrival. Many of these documents are often found among home sources since it was extremely dangerous for an

alien and their family members to ever be confronted without these items being readily available.

The July 1940 Registration Act (also known as the Smith Act) mandated that every alien resident living in the United States had to register at the local post office in their place of residence. Aliens entering the country had to register at the time they applied for admission. These requirements applied to all aliens age 14 and up, regardless of nationality, or immigration status. Aliens were fingerprinted as part of the process and had to supply two photographs taken within 30 days of the date of the application when submitting

the two-page form.

Each set of forms was numbered with an alien registration number and forwarded to the Immigration and Naturalization Service for statistical coding, indexing, and filing. Early registrations may be found in a variety of locations such as the Family History Library, National

Archives, and U.S. District Courts. Registry files from the 1929 and 1940 Registration Acts are in the custody of Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) which is now part of the Department of Homeland Security.

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Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S., Reference Librarian | Ft. Myers Regional Library, 2450 First Street, Ft. Myers, FL 33901. Email: [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com) or Voice 239-533-4626 | Fax 239-485-1160. Visit our website at [leelibrary.net](http://leelibrary.net). Follow us: on FaceBook and Twitter.



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# 15<sup>th</sup> century poem still tops 2016 charts

Ernie McNeill, *The St. Andrew's Cross, The SAS, Tallahassee, FL*

In this article, I will share a wee history of a song that many know as Scottish, but most all of the world knows it better than the Scots themselves.

We know it as *Auld Lang Syne*, but its earliest version was a 15<sup>th</sup> Century poem called *Auld Kindnes Foryett*. It is essentially the story of a man in impoverished circumstances, who is reflecting on the ingratitude of those who claimed to be his friends in better days.

Then, in 1711, a poem appeared called *Old Langsyne* attributed to an unknown writer. It consists of twelve stanzas of eight lines, and written throughout in English, rather than Scots.

The first record of the song in the version that we know it today is mentioned in Robert Burns' letter to his friend Mrs. Dunlop, dated December 17, 1788.

Burns enclosed a copy of the verse saying, "Here is an old song and tune which has often thrilled through my soul".

Burns claimed to have taken it down "...from an old man's singing".

Five years later, he sent a copy of the song, with new verses composed by himself, to George Thomson, who was compiling a collection of Scottish songs with music.

A few years after Burns' death in 1799, his version of *Auld Lang Syne* was published in Thomson's

*Songs of Scotland* - appearing for the first time with the melody as Burns intended. Listen here:

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=86\\_tIA9maA0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86_tIA9maA0)

Burns' song has spread to every corner of the world and is used for many different purposes other than the passing of the old year and ringing in the new.

In some countries, it is used as a funeral song. In

some, it is used for university graduation ceremonies. In other countries it lets customers know that the store or the restaurant is closing. In two other countries it is even used as a soccer supporter's anthem.

The song's huge popularity in

America is often ascribed to the band leader Guy Lombardo's (surely some of you remember Guy) use of *Auld Lang Syne* to end his New Year's Eve broadcasts not only on TV, but starting in the 1920s, on the radio.

So on New Year's Eve and the clock has just struck midnight from Moscow to Madrid, Bombay to Baltimore, and Sydney to Skye, what is everyone singing?

No question about it, with the possible exception of *Happy Birthday*, it is the most popular song in the world.

Now if we could just get everybody to learn the second verse...actually, it's the fifth verse if you're looking it up.



## New book from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in February

The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland's next publication, *A Cromwellian Warship wrecked off Duart Castle, Mull, Scotland, 1653* by Colin J M Martin, will publish in February 2017. To be notified when this book is published and receive a £5 discount code, please e-mail [sales@socantscot.org](mailto:sales@socantscot.org) with 'Duart Wreck' in the subject line. For more information please see: <http://www.socantscot.org/product/a-cromwellian-warship-wrecked-off-duart-castle-mull-scotland-1653/>



## LOVE TARTAN...?

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Mary is at home wondering where Seamus is, when her phone text beeps. The message reads: "Mary, I am at the pub having a few pints with the boys. If I am not home in 20 minutes, read this message every twenty minutes until I get home."

*Mary & Seamus*

Mary is at home

**MARCH 18, 2017**

**Dothan, Alabama's own Scottish Highland Event**

# THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF HERALDRY



A Chartered, non-profit body established in 1972, with the aim of aiding in the study and perpetuation of heraldry in the United States and abroad.

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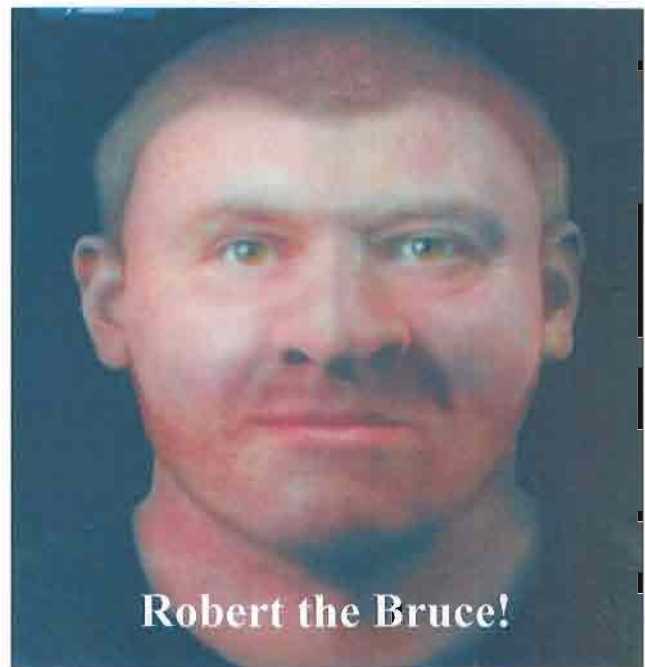
# Donald John Trump's mother was a Scottish MacLeod



With German ancestry from his father and Scottish ancestry from his mother, millionaire real estate developer Donald Trump epitomizes the American immigrant experience. Born to Frederick and Mary MacLeod Trump (from the Isle of Lewis, Scotland) in Queens, New York on June 14, 1946, Donald John Trump learned the real estate business firsthand from his father who, himself, began in the family construction business at the age of 13 when his own father (Donald's grandfather) died in the influenza epidemic of 1918.

Frederick Christ Trump, grandfather of Donald Trump, was also a true American entrepreneur. Immigrating to America in 1885, he began his fortune running the Arctic Restaurant and Hotel in Bennett, British Columbia, during the Klondike Gold Rush.

Christine, who would later become his wife, was only 5 when he left Germany, but they kept in touch by mail and eventually married.



**Scotland's warrior king - Robert the Bruce** - died almost 700 years ago and no one really knew what he looked like, until now.

Glasgow University and Liverpool John Moores University have produced a facial reconstruction based on his skull. They say this is the first accurate, digital reconstruction of what the hero of Bannockburn looked like.

For more information, visit <<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-38252711>>



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with cancer.

Del was born November 20, 1938 in Beatrice, Nebraska to Rudolph and Grace Wiese.

On September 9, 1977, he married his wife Beth.

Del was a 1956 graduate of De Witt High School in De Witt, Nebraska and attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

He worked as a design engineer in the Material Handling Division for many years retiring from Custom Powder Systems in Springfield, Missouri in 2010.

Delmar was awarded 18 patents during his career.

He served as a Grand Officer in the Knights Templar Scottish and held the position of National Treasurer at the time of his passing.

He was preceded in death by his parents Rudolph and Grace Wiese, by his brothers; Ben Wiese, Herman Wiese and George Wiese, sisters; Teda Mohanovich, Etta Means and Wilma Johansen, and daughter-in-law, Kaysha Morgan.

He is survived by his wife Beth and their children Darrell (Laurie) Morgan of Cave Creek, Arizona, Deborah (Barry) Craig of Rose Hill, Kansas and Pat Morgan of Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is also survived by 5 grandchildren; Danielle (Shawn) Fischer, Megan (Cale) Eldridge, Brian Morgan, Michael Morgan, and Isaac Morgan, as well as three great-grandchildren; Kayleigh, Kaia, and Hudson. Sister Eleanore Ivings

**Delmar R. Wiese**, 77, of Springfield, Missouri, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by family on Sunday, November 13, 2016 after a courageous battle

of Eugene, Oregon, brother Willard (Valgean) Wiese of Beatrice, Nebraska, sisters-in-law Marj Wiese of Eugene, Oregon, Ruth Wiese of Clatonia, Nebraska and brother-in-law Ken Means of Eugene, Oregon. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews as well as good friends Bill and Sara Carr and Bob and Becky Luebbe of Springfield, Missouri.

A graveside service was held at Oak Grove Cemetery on Friday, November 18, 2016 at 10:30 AM in De Witt, Nebraska.

In lieu of flowers, memorials have been set up through Gorman-Scharpf Funeral Home in Springfield, Missouri, or Griffiths Hovendick Chapel in Beatrice, Nebraska for the Wounded Warrior Project.

The family would also like to thank the special staff at Mercy Hospital as well as Mercy Hospice for their kindness and wonderful care during this difficult time.

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The St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee, Florida mourns the passing of four of their members during the month of November 2016.

**Ann Bahmann, Charles Bailey, Julia S. Goldstein and Dr. Stuart Cameron Smith** all departed this earth during November..



If you have a friend, a family member or a member of your Scottish organization who has passed away, please send a copy of his obituary to <bethscribble@aol.com>. There is absolutely no charge for the Flowers of the Forest articles here.



# ClanKeith-USA.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (including alternate spellings such as Keeth) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixson - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email [membershipclankeith@mindspring.com](mailto:membershipclankeith@mindspring.com) or call 404-539-5222.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the Clan is not expensive but one of the finest investments that you will ever make. Hope to see you soon!

## Beginner Series Genealogy Classes in Ft. Myers, FL



Good Afternoon: Here is the information that several people have asked about concerning our annual *February Beginners Series*. The format and content will be different than in years past.

Our presenter will be Shirleen Hoffman, President of Hoffman Genealogy Services, and a Volunteer with the Lee County library System.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

All genealogy programs scheduled for Fort Myers Regional Library are held in the South Building Meeting Rooms located at 1651 Lee Street, Fort Myers, FL 33901. All programs are free and open to the public. Advance Registration is required. Patrons may register for the classes using one of the following methods:

1. Telephone: Call 239-479-4636 and select the option for registering for programs.
2. Telephone: Call Bryan I. Mulcahy at 239-533-4626 and leave your contact information.
3. E-Mail: Contact Bryan L. Mulcahy at [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com).

### **Introduction to Genealogy: February Beginners Series**

*Saturday February 4, 11, 18, 25, 2017*

Speaker: Shirleen Hoffman – President, Hoffman Genealogy Services, Volunteer, Lee County Library System

Time: 9:30am - 12:15pm South Building, 1651 Lee Street, Meeting Rooms A & B

○ Session One: Genealogy Basics

○ Session Two: Finding Your Family in the United States Census

○ Session Three: Using Court House Resources and Vital Records

○ Session Four: Using Other Resources for Locating Ancestors.

## **HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE!**

Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.



Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating. The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it to regain a normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get help or to a hospital.

Tell as many other people as possible about this. It could save their lives!

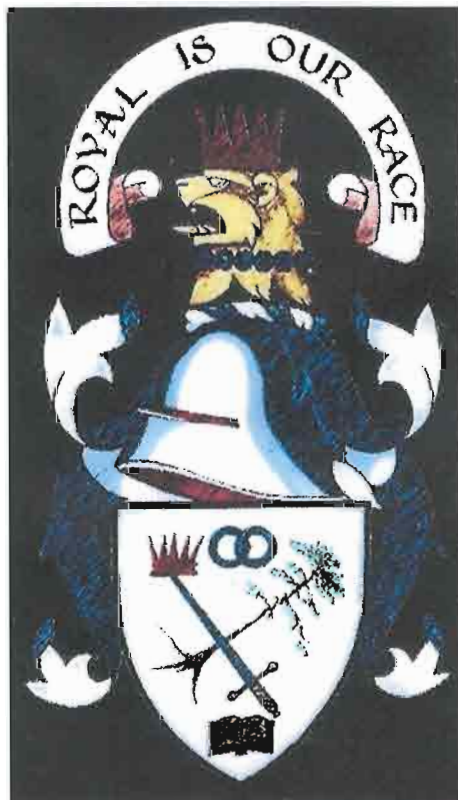
# THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

## 'S Rioghal Mo Dhream! Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

**Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor**  
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder  
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# Clan Henderson Society Scholarship program open! Academic, Arts/Music & Performing Group all eligible for financial assistance...

**Mark Henderson**, Vice President Members, Clan Henderson Society  
<hendy28@comcast.net>

It's that time of year: Clan Henderson Society Scholarships!

For 2017, the following scholarship awards were approved at the Annual General Meeting (AGM): **Academic Scholarship**. Only one scholarship is given per year in the amount of \$1,000.

The applicant must have a 3.0 GPA or greater for last year of study (College Freshman: use HS grades). High School applicants must have a B average or greater.

The application must include a photocopy or PDF to verify academic performance.

A person may not receive this award more than once.

Scholarship award is not limited to a particular field of study but a preference will be given to academic endeavors that reflect the goals of the Society.

**Celtic Arts and Music**. An applicant must have an interest in pursuing studies in Celtic Arts.

The scholarship should assist the applicant in learning Scottish Country Dancing, Bag Pipes, Celtic Art or design work.

Two awards may be given each year in the amount of \$300 each.

No individual may receive more than two awards in this category: Celtic Arts and Music Beginner Scholarship.

This is intended to encourage members of Clan Henderson Society to learn to play the bagpipes or other Celtic related performing or visual art.

It is specifically intended for the younger members (17 and younger) of the Clan Henderson Society.

No more than three will be awarded each year in the amount of \$50 each.

An individual may receive this award more than once.

All award recipients up to this point must be members of Clan Henderson Society or financially dependent of a member of Clan Henderson.

**Performing Group Award**. This is a financial award and is not technically a scholarship. It will be given to a Celtic music performing group such as pipe and drum band, choral group, etc.

Recipient groups will be identified as containing members of Clan Henderson Society.

Applications must include detailed information about the group, including its genre of music, number in the group, where the group performs, any charitable groups they support and the overall age of the group.

The amount of the award can be within \$500 to \$1,000.

Contact Mark Henderson <hendy28@comcast.net> for more info.





## Elliot Clan Society, USA Membership Information 2014

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Elliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Elliots of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (Including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society, please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

[www.elliotclan.com](http://www.elliotclan.com)

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society, you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent Society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

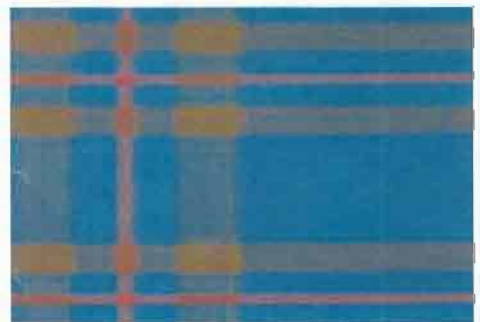
Email: [dublincollen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dublincollen@sbcglobal.net) or write

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*(Fortiter Et Recte)*

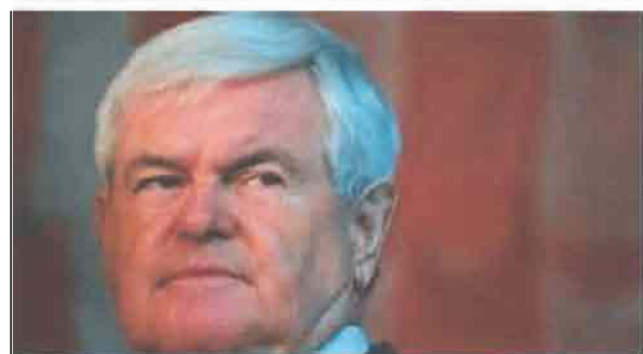
*Boldly and Rightly*



# Clan Buchanan pocket knife?



Kevin Buck Buchanan made the local paper recently at the Fresno (CA) Games. Kevin demonstrated various Scottish weapons to the crowd of visitors at the Games. Michael and Bryce Buchanan also enjoyed the day by demonstrating weapons and welcoming visitors to the Clan Buchanan tent..



## Newt is Scottish, too!

Born about 72 years ago, he was named after his father, Newton MacPherson.

His parents divorced and he was adopted by his new stepfather, whose last name he took. He was formerly known as “Newt” Gingrich, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives.



## Edinburgh taxi licenses do not come easy at all!

Edinburgh, Scotland taxi licenses do not come easy at all. In fact, you might have to wait up to 100 years for the privilege of driving a taxi there.

The Edinburgh District Council has only issued three new taxi licenses in the past year. There are 330 hopeful applicants now on the waiting list, which has now been closed.

At any one time, there are a maximum of 1030 taxis in the city. Licenses come up for grabs when a previous owner retires or dies.

Applicants must undergo scrutiny from the Cab Department before being issued a license. The applicant must know the city inside and out and also must prove they have a solid understanding of the history of the area.

Applicants usually have to wait a minimum of five years.



*Continued from last column, lower left*

In his teens, he became fascinated about his Scottish roots and by the time he entered politics it was an obsession.

When the demands of his office prevented him from continuing his research, he asked his half brother, Randy MacPherson, to take charge of tracking their ancestry.

Randy MacPherson was joined by the Scottish head of Clan Macpherson, High Court Judge Sir William Macpherson.

Gingrich does not hide the fact that his greatest hero is Robert the Bruce. He is often seen wearing one of his numerous Clan MacPherson tartan ties.

# Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, 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 were “encouraged” to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

After William Bell, called “Redcloak” and Chief of the Clan died in 1627, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell North America 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.

CBNA cordially invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. A quarterly newsletter is published. Tents are hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast in the USA.

President & Membership:

**David E. Bell**

1513 Anterra Drive  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
debellingc@reagan.com

*Visit our Website:*

**clanbell.org**



# Alastair looks at Scottish Education

Alastair McIntyre, <electricscotland.com>

I looked at Education this week as a result of the International Pisa scores. The influential Pisa rankings, run by the OECD, are based on tests taken by 15-year-olds in more than 70 countries.

I was interested in the Pisa Scores and noted the press comments in Scotland on how we're seeing a decline in our rankings. I was asked how Canada did and confess I didn't know but have since found out that...

Canada ranked 2nd for Reading, 7th for Science and 10th for Maths.

Australia Ranked 16th for Reading, 14th for Science and 24th for Maths

UK Ranked 22nd for Reading, 15th for Science and 27th for Maths

USA Ranked 24th for Reading, 25th for Science and 40th for Maths.

Singapore was overall in first place.

Scotland trails behind England and Northern Ireland - recording its worst results in these Pisa rankings.

The small Asian country Singapore focused relentlessly on education as a way of developing its economy and raising living standards.

And from being among the world's poorest, with a mix of ethnicities, religions and languages, Singapore has overtaken the wealthiest countries in Europe, North America and Asia to become the number one in education.

Prof Sing Kong Lee, vice-president of Nanyang Technological University, which houses Singapore's National Institute of Education, said a key factor had been the standard of teaching.

"Singapore invested heavily in a quality teaching

force - to raise up the prestige and status of teaching and to attract the best graduates," said Prof Lee.

The country recruits its teachers from the top 5% of graduates in a system that is highly centralised.

All teachers are trained at the National Institute of Education, and Prof Lee said this single route ensured quality control and that all new teachers could "confidently go through to the classroom".

This had to be a consistent, long-term approach, sustained over decades, said Prof Lee.

There is an article this week about Scottish Education in the Scottish Review which you can read at:

<http://www.scottishreview.net/WalterHumes111d.html>

Scotland's scores for maths, reading and science all declined in the latest set of Programme for International Student Assessment (Pisa) figures

Bet your house on the teachers. The OECD's education guru Andreas Schleicher has a catchphrase: "No education

system can be better than the quality of its teachers". And this week's TIMSS rankings have the same message - success is inseparably linked to the supply of good quality teachers. Whatever headline-grabbing wheezes might be deployed by education ministers, it all comes down to investing in teachers.

Long-term planning in a short-term world. It might take 10 years before changes in an education system make any positive difference in global rankings. That's not much of an incentive for the fleeting life-span of ministerial office. A recent reforming education minis-



*Continued on page 27*



# The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven  
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:  
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,  
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,  
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,  
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, McTavish,  
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,  
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,  
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,  
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant  
spellings.*

## We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: [clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com](mailto:clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com)

# Clan MacTavish Flower of the Forest



On behalf of Chief Steven MacTavish, it is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Clan MacTavish Past President, **Michael R. Thompson**, on November 16, 2016.

**Michael Richard Thompson**, age 73, passed away on Wednesday November 16, 2016 at the Capital Caring Halquist Hospice Center in Arlington, Virginia, after a long fight with pancreatic cancer. He was surrounded by his family at the time of death.

Michael was born in Long Beach, California to Wendell and Carol (Berg) Thompson. He entered into military service with the United States Navy as a Corpsman in 1962. During his service, Michael served multiple tours in Vietnam for which he was recognized for acts of bravery, and actions above and beyond his call to duty.

After leaving military service, Michael relocated to the D.C. Metro Area where he met his wife Elizabeth (Zanone). The couple were married in 1972 and resided in Vienna, Virginia where they raised their family. He was a dedicated employee of Miller & Long working as a Rod Foreman for over three decades.

Michael was an active member of Clan MacTavish where he served as Virginia Commissioner and President. He was an avid history enthusiast who shared his passion for his Scottish family history with many.

Michael is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Jeffrey. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth (Libby), son, Alexander (Katja Yount), daughter, Carol (SSGT Jeffrey Bilous), brother, Vincent Collins, and sister, Debra Apple.

The family ask, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (in Michael's name. Donations can be made at [www.pancan.org/donate](http://www.pancan.org/donate) or by mail at 1500 Rosecrans Ave, Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266.

In keeping with his traditions, a celebration of life will be held in Michael's honor. Details will be provided by the family at a later date.

Join the Thompson Family for A Celebration of Michael R. Thompson's Life. The Celebration will be held on Friday, January 13, 2017 at Waterford at Fair Oaks, 12025 Lee Jackson

Memorial Highway, Fairfax, Virginia 22033 from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

We invite you to come and share a memory or favorite story about Mike with family and friends from over the years....and propose a toast to his memory. (We will provide the Scotch)

A buffet dinner will be served along with an open bar. Please RSVP to [lthompson623@gmail.com](mailto:lthompson623@gmail.com) no later than January 5, 2016. The closest hotel is the Fairfax Marriott at Fair Oaks, 11787 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033.



The Clan Colquhoun Society in North America  
is now...

**The Clan Colquhoun International Society**

**<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>**



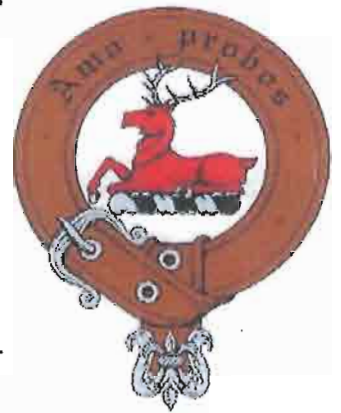
Contact Tom Hodges:  
[sijepuis@bellsouth.net](mailto:sijepuis@bellsouth.net)

Allied Families and Septs of

**Clan Colquhoun are:**  
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,  
MacClintock & MacManus

# Clan Blair Society

Memberships are cordially invited for Blair  
descendants and other interested parties.



**[www.clanblair.org](http://www.clanblair.org)**

President Clan Blair Society: Jim Blair  
7200 S. Prince Street  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Email: [president@clanblair.org](mailto:president@clanblair.org)



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman  
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715  
Email: [ClanMembership@clanblair.org](mailto:ClanMembership@clanblair.org)



# Solutions to MANY genealogical mysteries right here!

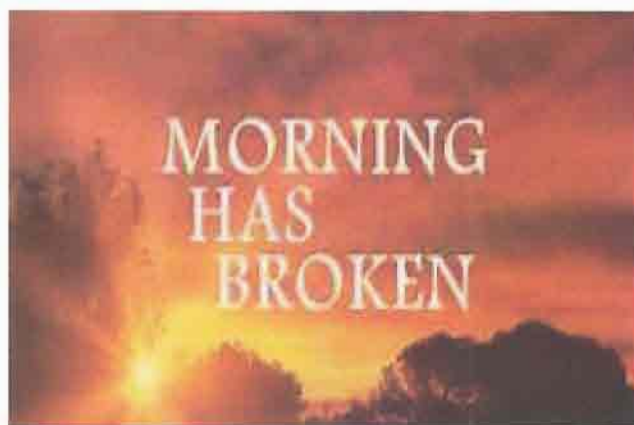


If you have a person whom you think was born in **Virginia** as early as 1728 and as late as 1863...and you just cannot find any trace of that person and it is one of your “brick wall” genealogy questions, here are possible solutions:



Between 1728 and 1863 with a birth in **Virginia**...could actually mean that that person was born in any part of **Illinois** from 1781 to Statehood in 1818; or, any part of **Indiana** from 1781 to Statehood in 1816; any part of **Kentucky** from 1775 to Statehood in 1792; any part of **North Carolina** from 1728 to 1779; any part of **Maryland** from 1775 to Statehood in 1792; any part of **Ohio** from 1778 to Statehood in 1803; any part of **Pennsylvania** from 1752 to 1786; any part of **Tennessee** from 1760 to 1893...or, all of **West Virginia** from 1769 til 1863.

See? It's simple, just research all of those states until you find your ancestor!



*Morning Has Broken* was popularized by the singer, Cat Stevens, in 1972.

The melody itself is an ancient Scottish tune to which the words of Eleanor Farjeon, a British children's author and lyricist were added.

The melody is also used with the Scottish Christmas carol, *Child in the Manger*. The words to that were written by Mary McDougall Ardtun who was born on the Isle of Mull in 1789 and who lived there all of her life.

## Bat Masterson is buried where?



It turns out that William Barclay “Bat” Masterson, gambler, gunslinger and lawman of the Old West is buried in the Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York.

He is not buried in Dodge City nor Deadwood, Kansas.

He really did spend his later years as a New York city newspaperman and died in 1921.

His gravestone tells the world nothing of his colorful early years, only that he was “loved by everyone.”

# *Glencoe School of Scottish Highland Dance*

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*Mary Wilson Recknagel*

**- BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals -  
SOBHD Adjudicator**

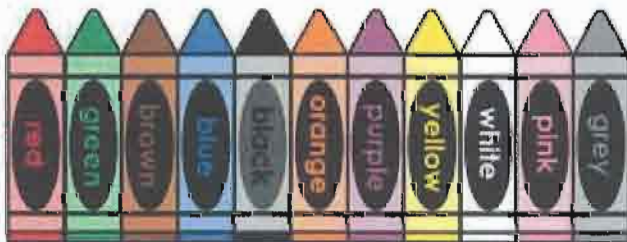
## Alastair looks at education,

*continued from page 21*

ter in Argentina's capital Buenos Aires entered office as the third minister in 12 days. But the big message from global rankings is that what is needed is consistency and continuity.

It's not a knockout competition. Education league tables are based on the proportion of young people reaching some benchmark of ability. The winners will be those who assume that everyone should cross that finishing line, including the poorest - and that is a distinguishing feature of the top Asian systems. They put the best teachers with the weakest pupils to make sure everyone gets to a basic standard. In contrast, much of the western approach to education is more like the Grand National, with the expectation that very few of the horses starting the race will still be there at the finish. And the rankings reflect this fundamental difference.

I also noted a news item on the BBC called "Life Chances are set by the age of 3" which I believe was a 40 year study in New Zealand where they followed 3 year olds through their life. They found that 3 year olds that had problems went on to be by far the highest percentage in prison, the highest number on social security and the highest number with health issues and so on. They thus conclude that the early years of a child's life is by far the most important time.



## Quanah Parker, last Chief of the Comanches has the last word

Quanah Parker, the last Chief of the Comanches, died 21 February 1911, aged 64 years.

When he and his tribe were forced to move to Indian Territory in Oklahoma, he became a relentless fighter for his people's rights and comforts.

He tried to obey the laws of the white man for the betterment of his people.

However, over the years, Quanah took 8 wives and fathered no less than 25 children.

White officials repeatedly reminded him that this was against the law and he ought to be setting an example for the rest of the Comanche.

At one point, the US Commissioner of Indian Affairs, ordered Quanah to select one wife and tell the others to go away.

Quanah brought the issue to an abrupt conclusion with one simple retort, "You tell them."

If you would like to see Alastair McIntyre on You Tube with more comments and suggestions, just visit <https://youtu.be/yM3uYbRvpjM>

The British Broadcasting Company is doing a regular weekly feature of "Good News" and this week you can view this at <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-38340607>



# Clan Grant

Society - USA

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*Stand Fast, Craigellachie!*

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Buie · Gilroy · MaccAllan  
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McKerran · M(a)cKieran  
M(a)cKessock · Pratt · Suttie

**IT'S GREAT TO BE A  
GRANT!**

[www.clangrant-us.org](http://www.clangrant-us.org)



Clan Grant AGM Stone Mountain, GA 2016



*Teachers and hundreds of pupils donned Father Christmas outfits and beards to take part in their secondary school's Santa Fun Run just a few weeks ago.*

*The event at Grantown Grammar in Grantown on Spey in the Cairngorms, Scotland, was held to raise money for the school's funds.*

*Those taking part warmed up by dancing a jig in the school's playing field before running, jogging or walking.*

*The Santa Fun Run involved about 340 "Santas" and even a few of their pet dogs.*

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## Explaining the “Mac,” “Mc,” and M’

“Mac,” is the Gaelic word for “son of,” and is the most common element of Scottish surnames. “Mc” is always an abbreviation of “Mac.”

It used to also be often abbreviated as “M’,” although this spelling is no longer common.

In an early book on Highland music, the author spelled his own name three different ways on the first two pages: “MacDonald,” “McDonald,” and “M’Donald.”

Blacks, *The Surnames of Scotland* and MacLysaigh’s *The Surnames of Ireland* both treat “Mac” the same way - as the only and original spelling.

“Mac” is always considered an addition to the name. Before there was a “Donald’s Son,” there was a “Donald.” In Scotland, names beginning with “Mac” are traditionally alphabetized under the first letter of

the second name - “MacAlister” under “A” and “MacZink” under “Z.”

Some genealogists will tell you that the “Mc” denotes Irish heritage. This is simply not true. “Mc” is an abbreviation of “Mac” and means the same thing in Ireland, Scotland or anyplace else, “Son of.”

In your editor’s family, the “Mc” was written like this:

The two little parallel up and down lines, I’ve been now told, were in place of the “a” in “Mac.”

After 1745, to avoid reprisals, many Scots Anglicized their names by dropping the “Mac” altogether. It was common when they emigrated or “cleared” from their land. “MacBall” simply became “Ball,” etc.

Nova Scotia’s Kinzie River was settled by the MacKenzies.



# COCKSPUR HERALDIC SERVICES & GRAPHIC DESIGN

Tom Freeman is a heraldic artist & graphic designer living in Northeast Georgia. He has been working in the Scottish community both in the US and internationally since 1999. He can be reached using the information shown below.

**Thomas R. Freeman, Jr.**

Mo Leannon  
688 Camp Yonah Road  
Clarkesville, GA 30523-4008  
706-839-6612

[trf@cockspurherald.com](mailto:trf@cockspurherald.com)

