



Volume II Issue No. 1 Beth's Newfangled Family Tree Section B July 2008



94-year-old member visits Clan Sutherland AGM at Greenville, South Carolina Games!

94-year-old Clan Sutherland member, Catsby Schafer, and her party of eleven others, including children, grandchildren and great grandchildren as well as the inlaws of her children and grandchildren came all the way from California to be at the 2008 Clan Sutherland Annual Meeting held at the recent Greenville, SC Highland Games.

She is shown here with former president of the group, Jack Pierce.

Cards and letters for Flora Macdonald Gammon Dall

Well-known Scottish singer, musician and music historian, Flora Macdonald Gammon Dall (Mrs. John Dall) was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. Happily, delightedly, we are glad to report that her surgery went well and that the future looks bright.

"Donna" would surely appreciate cards and letters from her many friends in the worldwide Scottish community.

You may write Mrs. John Dall, 111 Key Circle, Waynesville, NC 28785. Her email is Teuchter@bellsouth.net

Jeri Martin needs our thoughts and prayers

Jeri Daniel Martin, DGOTJ, LOK, FSA Scot, fell and broke her arm while on a Knight's Templar cruise to Mexico a few weeks ago. Unfortunately, the arm injury impacted shoulder surgery that was performed some time ago. Jeri has been hospitalized at Broward General Medical Center, 1600 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 for some weeks with further complications.

You may send get-well wishes by visiting carepages.com - and to get started visit <http://www.carepages.com?ipc=registration> When the computer asks for patient name, use JeriMartin like that.

You may call 407-470-8405.

Interesting Marjoribanks

facts and stories...

(pronounced “Marshbanks”)

Charles Dickens came to dinner!

The famous Victorian author was a great friend of Angela Burdett Coutts who, in the 1830s was said to be the richest woman in Britain. Her grandfather, and the source of her fortune, was Thomas Coutts, one of the founders of was his cousin, Edward younger brother of the first Baron

Angela and Dickens were among the London poor. Dickens need of help and Angela put up the Marjoribanks, perhaps recognizing both to dinner.

Dickens recalled the incident never begun a book or begun anything of importance to me, but it on a Friday that I first dined with you at Marjoribanks.”

Edward Marjoribanks, the second Baron Tweedmouth, was Winston Churchill’s uncle?

Lord Tweedmouth, in 1873, married Fanny Octavia Louisa, third daughter of John Winston Spencer-Churchill, seventh Duke of Marlborough, and sister of Lord Randolph Churchill, Winston’s father.

In 1893, Churchill, was then 19 and an ardent Conservative, wrote to his father about an argument he had with his Uncle Edward, then Chief Whip of the Liberal party, in which Edward predicted a Liberal parliamentary victory.

“I wish you had been there to answer him, father, as I am sure there was an answer though I could not think of it.”

With thanks to *The Marjoribanks Letter...for and about people of the name, in all its variations - Marchbanks, Marchbank, Marshbanks and the rest.*



Coutts Bank. A partner in the bank Marjoribanks (1814-1870), a Tweedmouth.

close friends and worked together identified people and institutions in money. They met when Edward their shared interests invited them

later in a letter to Angela: “I have thing of interest to me or done anywas on a Friday...it must have been


Puns? Puns? Who likes puns?

Seems that a Clan Chiefs daughter was offered as a bride to the son of a neighboring Chief in exchange for two cows and four sheep. The big swap was to happen on the shore of the stream that separated the two clans.

Father and daughter showed up at the appointed time only to discover that the groom and his livestock were on the other side of the stream.

The father grunted, (Here it comes...) “The fool doesn’t know which side his bride is bartered on.”

Blame the Clan Stewart Society in America newsletter! (It is a fact that smart, intelligent folks love puns!) Write The Clan Stewart Society in America, 15678 Irish Road, Edinboro, PA 16412.



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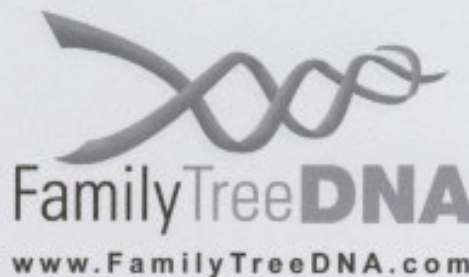
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Famous Orkadians *Captain William* *Leask and* *The City of Florence...*

Pat Long, from Orkney and
BuyOrkney.com

Scots didn't just cross the Atlantic to emigrate. Many of them spent their working lives sailing to and fro to Boston or New York or even round Cape Horn to San Francisco.

One of these was my great-grand-uncle, William Leask, and this picture was taken in a studio in Market Street, San Francisco, on one of his many trips there as a sea captain.

He was born in Coldomo, Stenness, Orkney in 1851 and died in the same house just 51 years later but fitted many adventures into the intervening years.

He went to sea and eventually became master of the *City of Florence*. David Bone's book *The Brassboulder*, describes life as an apprentice under his command. "Of medium height, though broad to the point of ungainliness, Old Jock Leask (in his ill-fitting shore clothes) might have passed for a prosperous farmer".

However, he goes on to say, "but it needed only a glance at the keen grey eyes peering from beneath bushy eyebrows, the determined set of a square lower jaw, to note a man of action, accustomed to command. A quick, alert turn of the head, the lift of shoulders as he walked – arms swinging in seamanlike balance – and the trick of pausing at a windward turn to glance at the weather sky, marked the sailing shipmaster – the man to whom thought and action must be one."

There is an interesting, though unsubstantiated, family story of his early career.

He and a fellow crew-mate had lost confi-

Continued on page 6



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Captain Leask, continued from page 5

dence in the captain of their ship and were convinced he was going to drive the ship under. They therefore jumped ship in Valpariso in Chile, where they were approached by someone recruiting for one of the sides in the American Civil War. If this part of the story is correct, Leask must have been very young, as the war ended when he was fifteen. When they refused to sign up, they were turned in as deserters and thrown into jail. However, a short time later there was a minor earthquake and, in the panic, the prisoners were set free.

The pair of them set off and crossed South America, which, understandably, took some time. When they eventually reached Buenos Aires they decided that the only way to get home was to hand themselves in to the authorities. When they did and said which ship they were off, they were told that was impossible, as the ship had gone down with all hands.

After an absence of several years Leask arrived back in Stenness. The story goes that the family were out singling neeps (hoeing swedes) when they saw a figure walking along the shore of the Bay of Ireland. "My, that looks like William... It is William"... and he was handed the hoe while his brother went in to tell their mother to put another tattie in the pot.

Another tale, which may or may not be true, is also, sadly, unsubstantiated.

When sailing as a mate, on an unfortunately unnamed ship, they came across the *Mary Celeste*. William Leask, in charge of the ship's boat, was sent across to investigate. He led the way onto the deserted ship and, finding no sign of life, wanted to salvage it. However, their own ship was already undermanned and the captain decreed that the *Mary Celeste* had to be abandoned once more.

Before he left, Leask took the ship's chronometer and sextant. He gave the chronometer to his captain and kept the sextant. My grandfather could remember being shown this sextant when he was a small boy. When the *Strand* magazine published the story of the *Mary Celeste*, a member of the family

wrote to the magazine with the family version.

When the story was dismissed, the family, almost unbelievably, posted the sextant to the magazine and it was never seen again. It is intriguing to wonder where it sits now, unrecognised.

Captain Leask is said to have rounded Cape Horn forty-two times and one of his worst trips was recorded by the *San Francisco Call* on 29 July. Unfortunately, we don't know which year.

"Something closely akin to a wreck was towed in through the Golden Gate after dark last night, and anchored at Melgg's wharf. She had what looked like board fences for bulwarks in half a dozen places, much of her rigging was worn and



spliced and even in the inky darkness that prevailed, the few people who boarded her could read the story of havoc by gale and sea. In the wreck of the fore-castle were six unfortunate sailors suffering from all manner of wounds, bruises and fractures received in a battle with the elements off the Horn two months ago. The wreck was the British

ship *City of Florence*, so long overdue that the underwriters had bade her farewell and were paying big premiums for reinsurance.

"It was an unlucky voyage throughout," said Captain Leask as soon as the *Florence* had dropped anchor, and so his log of the cruise proved. *The Florence* sailed from Antwerp on the 30th January, 181 days ago with 9590 barrels of cement, consigned to Mever, Wilson & Co. It was foggy all the way down the channel, and then such light airs were experienced that it was March 1st before the north-east trades were picked up. Fine weather lasted till April 25th when 50o south in the Atlantic was crossed, and a day or two after that the *City of Florence*'s real trials began.

Leaving Statten Island the ship encountered twenty eight days of the most persistent succession of gales and hurricanes that any vessel lived through, and had she been deeply loaded her arrival would have been extremely problematical. It

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Captain Leask, *continued from page 6*

was during these days of storm that the ship was reduced to a complete state of wreck. No canvas could withstand the fury of the blasts and sail after sail went flying away in shreds. The mountainous seas knocked her down, time after time, and before she could recover, their fellow waves pounded away as though determined to send her to the bottom. Not a movable thing escaped.

First went two boats, falls, davits and all, be-

ing washed away as if they were feathers. Two others were smashed to matchwood. The cabin doors were stove in, and the cabin so filled with water that anyone in it at the time must have been drowned.

The unfortunate sailors caught it next. Their forecabin was completely gutted, and an idea of the force of the rush of waters can be had when it

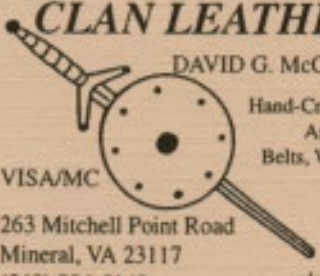
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Captain Leask, *continued from page 7*

is stated that the stove was torn from its anchoring bolts and washed out on deck.

Captain Leask only saved his chronometers when the cabin was flooded by wrapping them in tarpaulin and sending them to more protected parts of the vessel. After the cabin and forecastle had been pillaged by the waves they tried their power on the iron bulwarks. In places these proved of no more value than paper against the force of the water, and great sheets were shattered and torn away, leaving yawning, unprotected holes, through which many of the crew narrowly escaped being washed at times. Over twenty feet of the starboard main rail went on one occasion.

The breaks in the bulwarks had the good effect of shedding the water freely, and this proved of great advantage in lightening the ship, which, up to that time was rolling with decks full. A great source of danger was encountered in the spare spars breaking loose from their deck fastenings by pulling the ring bolts out. The heavy timbers washed about alarmingly, tearing fresh holes in the bulwarks and threatening the lives of any luckless sailors who chanced to be in their path. Six of the crew had broken bones during the terrible trial, and not a soul on the ship escaped bruises, sprains, cuts and half drowning on deck.

How the captain escaped losing anybody overboard is more than Captain Leask can tell, but the hair-breadth escapes are numerous, and thrilling enough to fill a page. Most of the men are around all right now, but some of the six with broken arms, ribs, etc are suffering severely through their hurts being aggravated by exposure and salt water.

It was impossible to cook anything for days at a time and during one stretch of a week, starvation threatened as well as drowning.

The topmost back stay chain plates were carried away and the main topmast so badly sprung that it was not possible to put on canvas to any extent. *The Florence* was 37 days from 50o south

in the Atlantic to 50o south in the Pacific and from thence to port she fortunately had pleasant weather.

The City of Florence is commanded by Captain William Leask of Leigh, Ireland and Stromness and among other members of the crew are Mr Robert Gillies, carpenter and Mr George Berston, Carpenter's mate both belonging to Stromness."

In the *Brassboulder*, David Bone described the ship's arrival in San Francisco after a less eventful trip. "We were now approaching the far-famed Golden Gate, the talk of mariners on seven seas... The blue headland and the glistening shingle of Drake's Bay to the norrdard and the high cliffs of

Benita ahead: the land stretching away south, and the light of the westing sun on the distant hills. No wonder that when the Mate called us down from aloft to hand flags there was much of our work left unfinished... After we passed through the Narrows, we had a near view of the wooded slopes of Sausalito, with the white-painted houses nestling

comfortably among the trees. Away to the right the undulating plains of the Presidio reached out to the purple haze of the distant city. The Pilot, seeing admiration in our eyes, couldn't hold his pride, even to us boys, and exclaimed aloud on the greatness of the United States in possessing such a sea-board.

"Saay, boys," he said. "Guess yew ain't got nothin' like this in th' old country!"

Young Munro, who was the nearest, didn't let the Pilot away with that, and he mentioned a "glint of Loch Fyne, when the sun was in the west'ard."

Towards the end of his book, David Bone gives one of the best descriptions of the relationship between a master and his ship. Trying to make land-fall in Ireland in bad weather, the pilot makes a mistake and they realise they are being driven onto the Stags of Broadhaven, a fearsome group of rocks.

The pilot says they'll have to run before the

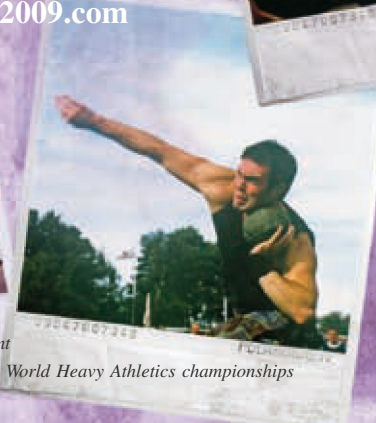
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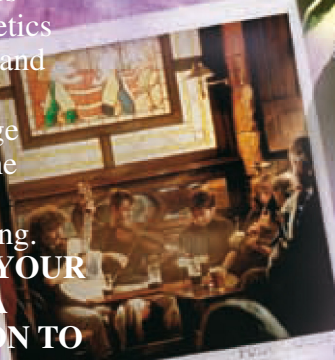
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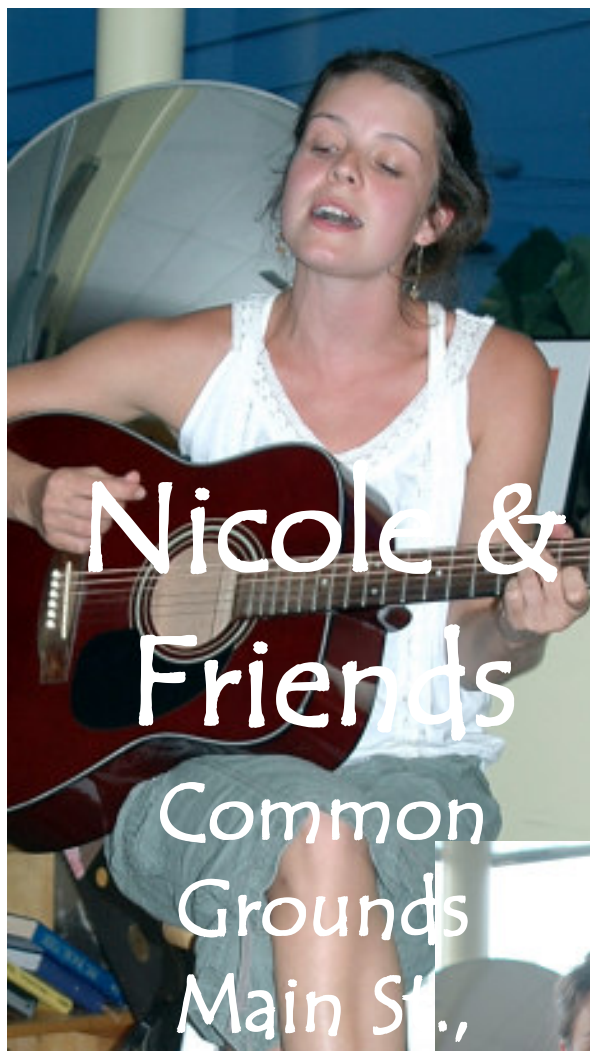
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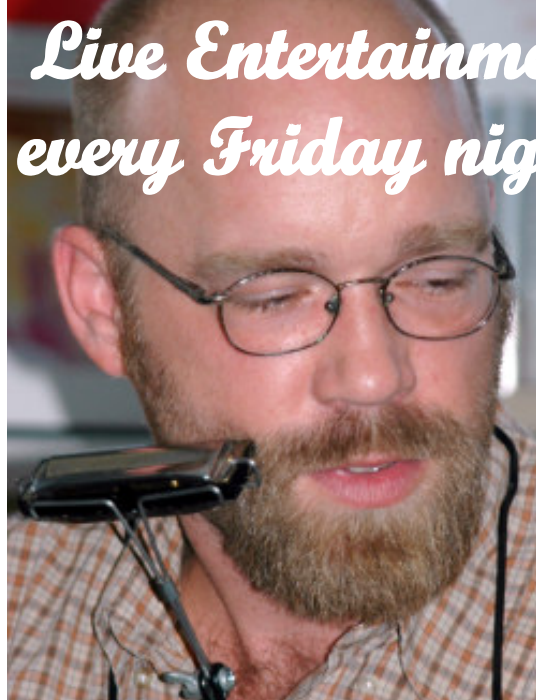
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wind and trust him to find the safe passage but Captain Leask decides he would rather trust his ship to fight her way back against the wind.

“We’ll keep th’ sea, if she can weather thae rocks ... an’ if she canna!!” A mute gesture – then, passionately, “T’ hell wi’ you an’ yer b-y Stags: I back ma ship against a worthless pilot! All hands, there, Mister – mains’l an’ to’ galn’s’l oan her! Up, ye hounds; up, if ye look fur dry berryin’!”

All hands! No need for a call! “Breakers ahead” – the words that sent us racing to the yards, to out knife and whip at the gaskets that held our saving power in leash. Quickly done, the great mainsail blew out, thrashing furiously till steadied by tack and sheet. Then topgal’n’ sail, the spars buckling to overstrain; staysail, spanker – never was canvas crowded on a ship at such a pace; a mighty fear at our hearts that only frenzied action could allay.

Shuddering she lay down to it, the lee rail entirely awash, the decks canted at a fearsome angle; then righted – a swift, vicious lurch, and her head sweeping wildly to windward till checked by the heaving helmsman. The wind that we had thought moderate when running before it now held at half a gale. To that she might have stood weatherly, but the great western swell – spawn of uncounted gales – was matched against her, rolling up to check the windward snatches and sending her reeling to leeward in a smother of foam and broken water. A gallant fight!

At the weather gangway stood Old Jock, legs apart and sturdy, talking to his ship. “Stand, good spars,” he would say, casting longing eyes aloft. Or, patting the taffrail with his great sailor hands, “Up tae it, ye bitch! Up!! Up!!!” as, raising her head, streaming in cascade from a sail-pressed plunge, she turned to meet the next great wall of water that set against her.

“Sh’ll stand it, Mister,” to the Mate at his side.

“Sh’ll stand it, an’ the head gear holds. If she starts that! – he turned his palms out – “If she starts th’ head gear, Mister!” “They’ll hold, Sir! ... good gear,” answered the Mate, hugging himself at thought of the new lanyards, the stout European gammon lashings, he had rove off when the boom was rigged.

Now was the time when Sanny Armstrong’s spars would be put to the test. The relic of the ill-fated Glenisla, now a shapely to’ gallant mast, was bending like a whip! “Good iron,” he shouted as the backstays twanged a high note of utmost

stress... Staggering, taking the shock and onset of the relentless sea, but ever turning the haughty face of her anew to seek the wind, she struggled on, nearing the cruel rocks and their curtain of hurtling breakers...

“How does ‘t bear noo, McKellar? Is she makin’ oan’t? shouted the Old Man.

The Second Mate, at the binnacle, sighted across the wildly swinging compass card. “No’ sure, Sir ... Th’ caird swingin’ ... think there’s hauf a p’int ... Hauf a p’int, anyway!”...

Grasping the binnacle to steady himself against the wild lurches of the staggering hull, the Old Man stared steadily aloft, unheeding the roar and crash of the breakers, now loud over all – eyes only for the straining canvas and standing spars above him. “She’s drawin’ ahead, Sir,” shouted McKellar, tense, excited. “East, b’ nor’ an’ fast!”

The Old Man raised a warning hand to the steersman. “Nae higher! Nae higher! Goad, man! Danna let ‘r gripe!”

Dread suspense! Would she clear? A narrow lane of open water lay clear of the bow – broadening as we sped on. Nae higher! Nae higher! Aff! Aff! Up hellum, up!” His voice a frantic scream, the Old Man turned to bear a frantic heave on the spokes.

Obedient to the helm and the Mate’s ready hand at the driver sheets, she flew off, free of the wind

Continued on page 17



Sign the National Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage Month Petition!

Here's why...and how to do it!

Now that Tartan Day has finally been signed and now complete, we should join together towards the establishment of the entire month of April as "National Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage Month".

A full month of recognition would provide those aware of our ancestry and heritage a fair opportunity to teach our children and others a vast, rich culture, that has lead many civilizations to success through many innovations, inventions and social structuring.

Another benefit of a month's recognition is that it would also bring attention to other days important to Americans of Scottish heritage, such as Tartan Day, Robert Burns' Birthday, and St. Andrew's Day, as well as many others. It would be the perfect opportunity to inform the general public of this heritage.

Many other groups have months to teach and recognize their achievements. For instance; June-Caribbean-American Heritage Month; March-Irish-American Heritage Month; May-Jewish-American Heritage Month; May is also Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month; February-African-American History Month". There are others which can be seen at The White House website-whitehouse.gov, then, "proclamations". But, it seems the Scottish and Scots-Irish are about the only group left out. In today's world we must be aggressive, teach or be forgotten. We must be heard.

We have been working toward the establishment of the month of April as "National Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage Month" for over six years and through that time many states have joined in the observances, although some states have acknowledged other months (on a state level), we seek a uniform national month as April and this would clarify some confusion. Many Scottish Societies, Clan societies and (as mentioned) states and municipalities support this.

We all know that strength in numbers gets

things done. We ask that if your organization has not joined, to do so, with a simple "Letter of Support", stating the support for the month of April as such and there's no other obligations involved. We ask your help in the propagation as well. We're also glad to assist states/mayors/municipalities in acquiring Proclamations and Resolutions. Any questions feel free to contact us and for more information, you can also "Google"- "national scots scots-irish heritage month" and we look forward to hearing from you.

Petition:

I petition my senators and congressman/congresswoman to propose a law for the President's signature proclaiming the month of April as National Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage Month in perpetuity.

Many American immigrant groups have months to teach and recognize their achievements. For instance; June is Caribbean-American Heritage Month; March is Irish-American Heritage Month; May is Jewish-American Heritage Month; May is also Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month; February is African-American History Month". There are others, which can be seen at The White House website-whitehouse.gov listed under "proclamations". But, it seems that we Scots and Scots-Irish are about the only group of Americans who are left out. We are not "hyphenated" Americans, but Americans who have a sense of pride in our cultural heritage.

That heritage will be forgotten unless we support our teaching it to our children and grandchildren with a publicly recognized display of pride.

Sign the petition

The National Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage Month petition to People of Scots, Scots-Irish Heritage in the US was written by James B. MacGregor and is hosted free of charge at GoPetition.

Visit: <<http://www.gopetition.com/online/19732.html>> to sign



Captain Leask, *continued from page 15*

and sea – tearing past the towering rocks, a cable’s length to leeward. Shock upon shock, the great Atlantic sea broke and shattered and fell back from the scarred granite face of the outmost Stag; a seething maelstrom of tortured waters, roaring, crashing, shrilling into the deep, jagged fissures – a shriek of Furies bereft. And, high above the tumult of the waters and the loud, glad cries of us, the hoarse, choking voice of the man who had backed his ship.

“Done it, ye bitch!” – a now trembling hand at his old grey head. “Done it! Weathered – by Goad!”

The men of the Leask family usually aren’t very big, but they’re strong. My grand-uncle Albert, William’s nephew, had a party-trick of crushing a saucer in his hand, which must have gone down well with his wife.

The ship’s carpenter told a story that illustrated Captain Leask’s strength.

He, his wife and the carpenter returned from church in Hamburg to find that the crew had mutinied.

Leask ran up the gangway and confronted the ring-leader, a six-foot tall Scandinavian. One punch sent up over the poop-rail to land on the deck with

Continued on page 18

We can all help those who are doing PA research. Here’s how. It’s simple.

Here is the link to the website about the grassroots effort to have Pennsylvania’s older state death certificates made available online similar to how they have started to do in other states: <http://users.rcn.com/timarg/PaHR-Access.htm> . We hope you will join in on this effort and if you would pass this information onto anyone you know who is into Pennsylvania genealogy and history including out of state residents. We hope you can appreciate just how helpful such a database would be in doing research.

The link is: <<http://users.rcn.com/timarg/PaHR-Access.htm>>

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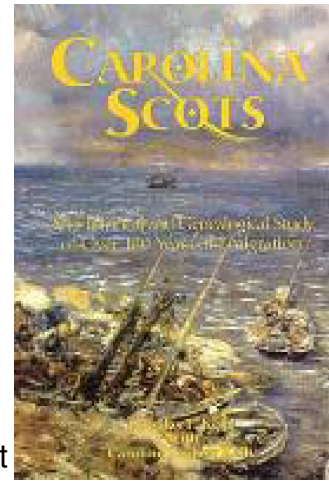
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Captain Leask, *continued from page 17*
a broken leg.

Captain Leask was hit over the head with a marlin spike by a steward whom he'd caught stealing spirits. His health failed and he had to leave the sea. He had been regarded as a lucky captain and the company tried to persuade him to continue to sail on the *City of Florence*, although he could no longer command her. He, of course, refused. How could he sail as a passenger on the ship he used to command?

As he left the ship he is quoted as saying, "Poor old Florence, it won't be long now."

Two voyages later, in 1900, she was wrecked in Half Moon Bay in California and just two years later her captain died of a brain tumour, on 8 February 1902.

He said in later life that he wouldn't send a dog to sea and his three sons stayed on dry land but they might have been better at sea.

Harold was a sniper who died at Hill 60 in WWI and William and Robert died in Africa.

Louisville Scottish Society wins first ever William B. Keith Scottish Heritage Award

The first annual William Keith Scottish Heritage Award was presented to the Louisville Scottish Society at the Glasgow, KY Highland Games May 31, 2008. The Louisville Scottish Society was found to offer the highest standard of friendly and helpful information on Scottish heritage and clans to its visitors. The family would like to thank Bob Harrison, and all the Glasgow Highland Games crew, for honoring Bill in this wonderful way. They would like to thank Beth Gay for her wonderful tribute as she emceed the games, which brought tears to our eyes, but joy in our hearts.

Bill had an interest and pride in his Scottish ancestry and Clan Keith. He served Clan Keith Society, USA, Inc. as State Convener for Mississippi, Director, Treasurer and President. He was especially proud of starting the Society's youth scholarship program and his involvement in the erection of a Clan Keith Memorial Cairn on the Keith Hall estate in Scotland. Over the years he and Elizabeth, also convened games in Kentucky (Carrollton, Glasgow and Paducah), Tennessee, Arkansas, Florida and Kansas. While President he traveled to many other games including California, Canada and Washington. In addition to his service for the Clan Keith Society he served as Treasurer for Council of Scottish Clans and Associations. He was a freemason of Valley City 402 in Water Valley, Mississippi as well as an Honorary Colonel of the Kentucky State Militia

Present at the gathering of Keith Clan to Honor Bill at the Glasgow Kentucky Highland games were his immediate family, Keith and Byrd cousins, Clan Keith Kin and many friends from

John Dickson, former President of the Louisville Scottish Society and member of the Clan Keith Society, accepting the first William Keith Scottish Heritage Award from Elizabeth Keith at the Glasgow Highland Games the first weekend in June 2008.



other clans. It was the type of occasion that Bill loved, family, friends, and former graduate students, talking, eating, drinking and remembering all of the wonderful times shared together. They came from Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Arkansas, Tennessee, South Carolina, North Carolina, Kentucky, Virginia, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, Maryland, Washington DC and Scotland. They brought hugs and wonderful stories. While Bill was sorely missed, smiles and laughter abounded through out the weekend. Bill took pride in many things, but his family brought him the most joy and satisfaction, his sons, daughters, and granddaughters, were all present dressed in their Keith Tartans. Each fulfilled a necessary duty: eldest daughter Patricia provided the granddaughters, Anna Katherine Keith Pittman and Louisa Elizabeth Keith Pittman; Sons, Billy and John, using their expertise of tailgating at Ole Miss, supervised the lunch at the tent and did the honors at the grill for the cookout Saturday night; daughter-in-law, Amy Travillo Keith, with her Clan Henderson connections provided the drama when she was "kidnapped" by our otherwise good neighbors who were the honored clan; and daughter Margaret recorded the event in pictures (including Amy in her Clan Keith skirt with a Clan Henderson sash looking delighted with her dual status.)

It seems fitting that David Irvine, 26th Baron of Drum was Chief of the Games as the treaty, signed between the Keiths and Irwins in 2002 at the 1000 Years Keith Celebration in Scotland, occupied a place of honor in front of the Keith Tent.

Continued on page 22

Our Scottish clippings!

Balgonie's Beard is Gone, Gone, Gone!

Stuart is beardless wonder

THE CHAIRMAN of a royal order of chivalry showed some bare-faced cheek yesterday—for the first time in 24 years!

Stuart Morris of Balgonie, who heads the recently revived Central Fife branch of the Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem, had his well-nurtured beard shaved off to raise funds for charity.

The shaving took place at Markinch Highland Games and the money raised went to mountain rescue teams, Disability Sport Fife, Fife's hospitals and various other charitable groups.

The games at John Dixon Park attracted hundreds of spectators.

The Markinch Games are home to the oldest pipe band competition in Scotland, and also on the programme were Highland dancers, runners, cyclists and heavy events.



Stuart Morris has his beard shaved by Beverley Walker.



Rebekah Aitken from Windygates smiling despite the weather.



Queries! Queries! Queries! Queries!

FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!

There was a woman born probably late 1880's - 1900, name of VERTAMAY TROGDON. She was a midget and, as such, worked in the circus. I am thinking she was born down Missouri way though not positive. I do not know what circus she worked for. I have seen a picture of the circus barn which promotes "May, the Midget." She eventually married a fellow named HAROLD SMITH. My question: Anything available on circus(es) and which (names) circuses she worked with? If you have any information, please let me hear from you. Kenneth R. Johnson, CDC #K05791, Bldg. 481L - RM 64, P. O. Box 3481 - 8800, 4001 King Avenue, Corcoran, CA 93212-8309.

I am looking for information on surname JOPLIN and BUTALA, along with HUNTS of Wyoming County, West Virginia; COLES, Raleigh County, West Virginia; FARLEY, Monroe County and Raleigh County, West Virginia; QUESENBERRYS of West Virginia; CREMEANS and CAZAD, Huntington and Barboursville, West Virginia; LEWIS and STEWART DOLTON, Chicago, Illinois. If any information, please contact Hal Lewis, 124 Cumberland, Buffalo, NY 14220.

Seeking any information on surname THEDRAWER in Scotland: locations, occupations, early 18th century. Need Scottish castle guard with surname THEDRAWER, who with other guards accompanied castle's princess to Germany for her marriage there. Please contact <ccornils@t-online.de>.

Are the WALLACES of West Virginia Scotch-Irish? What was the family's ancestry? I also would like to know about the CREMEANS of

Cabell, County, West Virginia and origin of name, as well as about STEWART Family of Dalton, Illinois, suburb of Chicago. LEWIS Family of Marshall County, Tennessee. Also would like info on FARLEY's of Raleigh County, West Virginia and FARLEY HILL in Winding Gulf, West Virginia. SAMUEL WESLEY, Raleigh County, West Virginia. CAROLINA HUNT, Wyoming County, West Virginia, daughter, married BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WALLACE. J. L. FARLEY, his parents THOMAS WALLACE, mother MARY QUESENBERRY or DUSENBERRY. SAMUEL WESLEY FARLEY of Kansas. JOHN HENRY FARLEY born 1882, Monroe County, Virginia, related to Lees, Virginia? BENJAMIN FRANKLIN & ELIZA WALLACE, daughter FLO BELLE WALLACE, husband CARL RAYMOND CREMEANS. Folks JOHN THOMAS CREMEANS & ALTA CAZAD. Parents WILLIAM RICHARD CAZAD & ELLEN BELLE HUGHES or RICHARD CAZAD & MARGERT MCGILL. If any information on the above, please contact Al Lewis, 124 Cumberland, Buffalo, NY 14220.

**Send
your queries to:
<bethscribble
@aol.com>**


It was wonderful to visit with Baron of Drum and Lady Drum again. They brought news about attending Lady Iona Keith's wedding. In 2000 Lord

and Lady Drum had the cabin next to Bill and Elizabeth at Glasgow during the visit of The 13th Earl and Countess of Kintore.

History of Clan Keith Association with Glasgow Highland Games

Clan Keith was a founding clan of these games and is listed on the cairn at the entrance to the game field. Bill was presented a plaque in 2005 as the Glasgow games celebrated their 20th anniversary. His interest in the games began on a trip from the family farm in Eastern Kentucky back to Mississippi. Bill and Elizabeth stopped by the Glasgow Games on the trip and could not find a Clan Keith tent although Clan Keith was listed as a founding clan of the games on the cairn. Imagine their surprise and delight when they visited the music tent and a beautiful singer (Susan Palmer Marshall) was singing "The battle of the Keiths and Gunns". Sandy Marshall, the composer of the ballad, was emcee of the games. Bill and Eliza-

Continued on page 23



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Here's a wonderful idea for the next time you fill out a Federal Census form. Just make a copy of your own information for your own genealogical files.

Remember, the information you submit won't be released for 75 years after the census and some of your folks may need that information much sooner...




Clan Keith, *continued from page 22*

beth decided then that they would convene the Glasgow games for Clan Keith Society USA the next year. They have sponsored the games at Glasgow for many years, including 2007 when Anna Dickson, convened for them. Elizabeth was pleased that Charlie Austin appointed her Kentucky convenor so this tradition could continue.

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Flowers of the Forest

Suzanne "Sue" Sutherland Miiller, of Wilamette, Illinois, died January 5, 2008. Mrs. Miller was born 84 years ago in Evanston, Illi-nois, and had been a CCSNA member (#697) since 1984.

At age 12, she sold the first bag of Girl Scout cookies in Illinois, launching a successful fund-raiser for the Girl Scouts in 1935. Together with her mother, Elizabeth Sutherland, she selected Sweet's Tin Shop in Wilmette to make trefoil shaped cookie cutters that were taken to Wilson's Bakery in Wilmette, who made the cookies.

She married Walter T. Miiller in 1950. They built a house in a Wilmette farm field in 1953 where they raised two daughters. She is sur-vived by her husband of 57 years, Walter "Wally" Miiller; daughters, Suzanne and Lisa; four grandchildren, Elizabeth, Paul, John and Brittany; and her sister Nancy.



Something to remember when you see silver buttons on Highland dress...

Scottish warriors once wore diamond-shaped silver buttons on their kilts to ensure a proper burial if they died on foreign soil.

The button's value covered the cost.

Such buttons still appear on Highland dress today, although for decorative purposes only.

Greenville (SC) Scottish Games

June 2008

Furman University





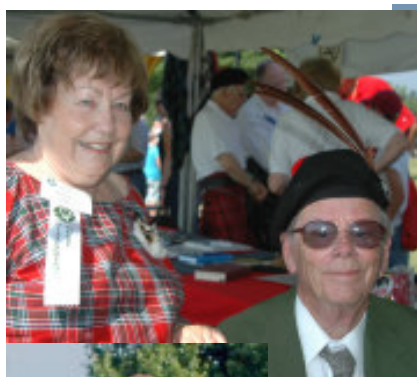
Greenville (SC) Scottish Games

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Greenville (SC) Scottish Games

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In case you haven't noticed - Caledonia!

Ned Buxton

*A Keith, Gunn, Armstrong, Morrison
& Member of The Kingdome of Räkna*

We all know the power of the written word, witness documents like the Declaration of Arbroath, the Declaration of Independence, the Iroquois Constitution and many others throughout history that have literally inspired the birth of nations. Pair meaningful lyrics together with a good melody and you magnify the emotions that it evokes and its overall effect on society and, aye, the Community of Man.

Songs that come to mind without much pondering (and for different reasons) include *The Star Spangled Banner*, *Amazing Grace*, *La Marseillaise*, *The Lord's Prayer*, *Imagine*, *We Shall Overcome*, *Dixie*, *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, *The Eyes of Texas*, *Highland Cathedral* (written by a couple of Germans), *Ireland's Call* and the incredible *The Minstrel Boy*, among many others.

Music can be a great unifier and one song born innocently in the seventies could some day join the august company invoked above. Once in a great while someone approaches the alter and that's what this piece is all about.

Scots and most Scottish-Americans are well familiar with Dougie MacLean the former teenage musical prodigy who played off and on with the august and seminal Scottish groups Silly Wizard and the Tannahill Weavers. Those folks were part of his adolescence and we correctly surmise they remain good Friends as he approaches his maturity. A multit talented and prolific composer, singer, songwriter and musician (guitar, fiddle, harp, banjo, mandolin, viola, bouzouki, bass, didgeridoo, keys, whistle, bodhran, harmonica and

percussion, for now), Dougie went solo in 1981 and then formed his own independent record company, Dunkeld, in 1983 and hasn't looked back.

With his own record label, recording studio, publishing company and now Pub and Hotel, Dougie and wife Jennifer remain very busy.

We luckily can't seem to get too far away from Dougie mostly because of his great body of work that beckons us to meet frequently on radio, TV, computer, CD, MP3s and in person. Dougie has been described as the mainstay of the modern Scottish Folk scene though his music is appreciated across all genres. It was an easy predict for me to embrace MacLean given my appreciation

for the offerings of James Taylor.

Dougie MacLean's music is emotional and he writes endearingly of his Perthshire home and native Scotland. He has written many songs that have received great play in the United States. In 1989 Dougie embarked on a tour of the United States in conjunction with Fiona Ritchie's National public radio (NPR) show, *Thistle & Shamrock*.

If the members of the US Scottish Community didn't know him before, they sure knew him now. *The Thistle & Shamrock* remains one of PBS's most popular shows and Fiona one of the lynchpins of the US Scottish Community, music and otherwise.

Dougie has toured the United States since then to include stints with Grammy Award winning country singer Kathy Mattea who has blossomed further as a performer since this West Virginian

Continued on page 29



“discovered” Scotland. MacLean has co-produced albums and written songs for Mattea while also playing guitar and singing harmony on Mattea’s 1993 Christmas album, *Good News*.

Most folks don’t know it but one of MacLean’s most recognizable works is *The Gael* which appeared on his 1990 album *The Search*, a collection of instrumental works originally commissioned for the opening of the Official Loch Ness Monster Exhibition. Adaptations of this piece by composer Trevor Jones were used as the main theme for the 1992 *Last of the Mohicans* soundtrack and another in the *Mohican Promontory* piece which made a later notable resurgence as part of a Nike advertisement entitled *Leave Nothing*. The advertising world has been good to Dougie as we shall learn later. In 1993 MacLean received a gold record/disc in recognition of his achievement for the *Last of the Mohicans* soundtrack. The recognition given MacLean is too numerous to note here and will ultimately be addressed by his biographers. Dougie MacLean has become a Scottish icon and International star - the stuff that legends are made of. I have always been a fan and have been mostly content to listen to his CDs and especially to appreciate now how other artists interpret his music. That brings us to the core and purpose of this commentary.

In 1979 MacLean released *Caledonia* on an album of the same name. Though no one seems to know for sure when Dougie wrote the song (Wikipedia states, “somewhere between 1974 and 1977”), from what I have been able to piece together MacLean wrote the song in 1977 while in Brittany touring (busking) with two Irish lads. In today’s world it seems lu-

dicrous that we don’t know for sure though I haven’t found any more specific references in any of my searches. Dougie, if you read this, thanks for letting us know when *Caledonia* was written.

It does seem fitting that he wrote the song off Scottish soil evoking emotions not unlike Scottish Soldier which was adapted from the pipe tune *The Green Hills of Tyrol* written during the Crimean War (1853-1856) by John MacLeod, a Pipe Major in the 93rd Highlanders who was yearning for the auld sod. The river runs deep as the emotions evoked here mainly by Scots away from home are similar to those put to paper by Dougie MacLean. One thing we do know is that Dougie MacLean’s personal testimony and lament at being away from home helped launch his solo career and created what seemingly has become, “the new voice of Scotland.”

Quite a few artists and groups to include Frankie Miller, Dolores Keane, Lisa Kelly of Celtic Woman, Derek “Fish” Dick, Celtic Thunder, Aoife Ní Fhearraigh, the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, Mary Black, The Stationary Willberries, Amy MacDonald, Paolo Nutini (terrible!) and Alex Beaton, among many others have attempted *Caledonia* with varying degrees of success. As a side note Paolo Nutini and Amy MacDonald, even though MacLean protégés, offered two of the worst versions I have heard. Nutini

tries to emulate a stoned Dylan while MacDonald appears detached and/or should fire her sound mixer. The earthy and very Irish Keane is very good though her version drags badly at the end. Aoife’s version was a bit ethereal with her flutter



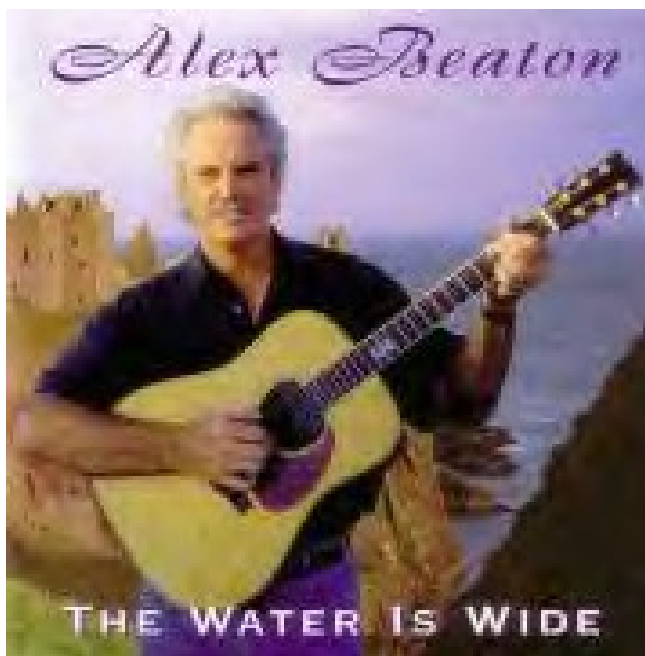
Continued on page 30

vibrato though I liked Brendan Monaghan's uilleann pipes.

Caledonia first went to number one on the Scottish Music Charts when it was sung by Scottish rocker/singer and MacLean Friend and Confidante Frankie Miller in 1992. Ironically, the great success of that recording of *Caledonia* is partly attributable to the impetus prompted by the airing of a Scottish TV commercial for Tennent's Lager, where Frankie Miller's rendition was first aired. No one is surprised that Dougie's original version is far superior to most all other singers. There are a couple, however, that have equaled and even surpassed the author.

The highly successful "Celtic Woman" show which aired on Public Television (PBS) in 2007 took America by storm. Sales of their *Celtic Woman: A New Journey* DVD and CD have been monstrous. Brother David gifted me with this album last Christmas and it remains a much appreciated and well used gift. No doubt that the *Riverdance* phenomenon and artists like Enya and Clannad and the resurgence of the world Celtic Community helped prop open the doors for this group and their success. The album opened at #4 on the Billboard's Album Chart, selling 71,000 copies in its first week. The album later hit number one on the World Music Chart. Shouldn't we take pleasure that Simon Cowell wasn't involved with the formation of this group?

Performers in Celtic Woman include classically trained Dubliner Lisa Kelly who sings this



most popular song on the album. Amazon.com stated, "There is just something about this song you just can't put your finger on. It is filled with warmth, love and romance..." The bottom line is that Lisa nails the song and you have to give kudos to the arrangers who kept the spirit of the song intact tweaking it enough to keep it "fresh." Her performance, though, is almost too perfect, too choreographed. If you haven't noticed, she is also drop dead gorgeous. We also noted that she is very happily married and the Mother of three. Gees...

But just as we run Lisa up the proverbial flagpole I have to nominate another artist who performs the song even better. Not possible you say? It does seem improbable though one Alexander William MacLeod Beaton does just that. Yes, I'm talking about baritone Alex Beaton. This native Glaswegian who born to a Scottish father and an Irish mother, immigrated to the United States in 1965 after beginning his musical career as a member of the highly acclaimed

The Cumberland Three, one of Britain's top folk groups in the early 1960s.

Alex served in the U.S. Army, entertaining troops in Germany. During the 1970s, he wrote and achieved success per-

forming "American" country music like another good Friend and accomplished Scottish singer, Colin Grant-Adams. Though he would have been a great success in that genre we thank God that

Continued on page 31

Alex has since focused on Scottish folk music. He has become a highly sought after entertainer at Scottish Highland Games and Celtic Festivals around the United States, Canada and the rest of the world. He has collaborated with such luminaries and good Friends as Margaret Gravitt and Alasdair Fraser.

Alex has worked hard for four decades and in that interim has created his own label, Glenfinnan Music, nineteen very successful albums and a triple feature DVD, *Alex Beaton's Scotland: A Musical Travelogue of Scotland*.

Wherever Alex performs, he brings another huge element into play. He personally engages his audiences with a great sense of humor, a rich baritone voice, impeccable timing and right-on interpretations of both contemporary and traditional Scottish songs that seem to carry from his soul. And that leads us to Dougie MacLean's *Caledonia*.

During a performance, Alex may share some fascinating bit of Scottish history to bring the music to life. Alex did just that when he was kind enough to play *Caledonia* for me at the most recent Glasgow, KY Highland Games explaining to a large and appreciative group that "Caledonia" (Wooded Land) was the Latin name given by the Romans in the first century to that northern part of Great Britain that was later applied to that area we now know as Scotland.

Answers.com further comments about Caledonia and their capital Dunkeld, "As its name implies, Dunkeld was a 'capital' of the Caledonii, a Pictish-Celtic people. Kenneth MacAlpin made Dunkeld one of two capitals, along with Scone, when he united the Picts and Scots in 844 CE." Aye, that's the area where Dougie MacLean was born and raised. Alex sings the song deliberately though with great passion and bravado. His baritone voice seems perfectly suited for this song. His timing and delivery combines the best of Dougie MacLean and Lisa Kelly and brings the song home.

Caledonia is on Alex's 1995 album, *The Water is Wide*.

One of the wonderful aspects of *Caledonia* is audience participation. Wherever the song is sung, audiences from Scotland and Ireland, to California, Texas, New York, Canada and the rest of the world sing along. They know the words to what has fast become the unofficial national anthem of Scotland. In short, this song has inspired a nation! In a recent conversation the multi-talented musician, singer, music historian and Director of Music at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games,

Flora MacDonald Gammon, explained that *Caledonia* has literally synthesized the feelings of a nation.

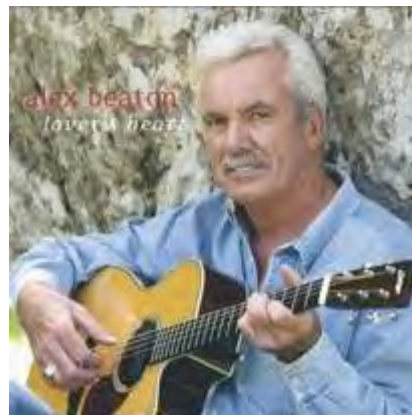
Believe it or not, Scotland has no national anthem and those that outrageously offered *God Save the Queen* are now disgraced and out of power. *Flower of Scotland* and *Scotland the Brave* remain the two most popular choices. *Caledonia* doesn't seem to be in the mix though the

folks at Holyrood need to properly poll their Scottish constituents. I might add here that, not surprisingly, Dougie MacLean is a very active dues paying member of the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP) and strong adherent of Scottish independence. With his gift of song he continues to inspire a nation and the Scottish Diaspora.

Thanks to all the entertainers who perform *Caledonia* and appreciate its significance to native Scots and those of Scottish origins. As one Scot has stated, "This is powerful, emotional stuff. It's enough to make any Scot, ex-pats in particular, weep into their beer." I can testify that this Scottish-American cried in his Syrah.

In 1703 Andrew Fletcher, Scottish writer, politician and patriot who opposed the 1707 Act of Union between Scotland and England demonstrated his consummate understanding of the power of music by commenting, "...if a man were per-

Continued on page 32



mitted to make all the ballads, he need not care who should make the laws.”

Thanks, Aye, especially to Dougie, Lisa and Alex.

Ned Buxton Richardson, Texas Father's Day June 15, 2008

Beth's New Fangled Family Tree would like to recommend to those so interested Ned's blog at www.mightofright.blogspot.com where you can read many more of Ned's observations and commentary.

Subject: RE: Correction: *Caledonia* by Dougie MacLean From: Strupag Date: 30 Jan 03 - 09:06 PM

Actually Dougie wrote this song in Britany, He told me this once in Ullapool. Atfer he left the “tannies” (Tannahill Weavers) he was busking and giging with two Irish boys (Desi something - the might have gone on to form Cran) Anyway, Dougie said that after doing a bit of busking in Rennes, the boys bought a carry out and headed north for the coast. Des was emotional with the drink and was looking out to sea and kept on saying “ Ireland's over there!” Dougie thought of a wee country just east of Ireland and went away into a corner and wrote *Caledonia*. That's how I was told it anyway.

Scotland's Firstfoot.com sums up Dougie MacLean and his songs for us describing them as, “Pure Scotland wrapped up in music.” Schiehallion, “Fairy [hill] of the Caledonians”. The name first occurs in the works of Lucan (1st cent. A.D.) and has been used in modern times rhetorically and poetically to mean all of Scotland or the

Scottish Highlands. Caledonia is the Latin name given by the Roman Empire to a northern area of the island of Great Britain. The name means “Wooded Land”. In others it may mean the area north of the Antonine Wall. In English and Scots ‘Caledonia’ is now a romantic or poetic name for Scotland. However, the modern day name for Scotland originated from the Latin word for the Scotti, who had crossed over from Ireland. Scotia, which was later applied to Scotland after Kenneth Mc Alpin had united the Picts and the Dalriadans. The Gaelic name for Scotland today is Alba. The name

represents that of a Pictish tribe, the ‘Caledonii’, one amongst several in the region, but perhaps the dominant tribe. Their name appears in that of Dunkeld (‘Dùn Chailleann’ in Scottish Gaelic).

Caledonia Alan Roberts and Dougie MacLean Plan Alex Campbell and Alan Roberts. MacLean's breakthrough came with the release of the album, *Caledonia*, in 1979. t Life PLR 012 (LP, UK, 1978) In 1979 he released the single *Caledonia*, which marked the start of a new career, way of life and a new voice for Scotland

Caledonia is the Latin name given by the Roman Empire to a northern area of the island of Great Britain. The use of the name sometimes refers specifically to the area north of the Antonine Wall. The name represents that of a Pictish tribe, the ‘Caledonii’, one amongst several in the region, though perhaps the dominant tribe. Their name can

Continued on page 33



be found in 'Dùn Chailleann', the Scottish Gaelic word for the town of Dunkeld, and Sidh Chailleann or Schiehallion, "Fairy [hill] of the Caledonians". The modern use of 'Caledonia' in English and Scots is as a romantic or poetic name for Scotland. 'Scotland' itself is derived from Scotia, the Latin term for Ireland, from which the Scoti peoples originated before resettling in northern Great Britain.

Caledonia has topped the Scottish charts and become one of Scotland's most popular contemporary songs.

Melancholy in nature, helps to be connected to the auld sod

YouTube offerings showing him in concert singing *Caledonia* reflect audiences from throughout Canada, UK, the United States singing right along side Dougie MacLean.

His uplifting composition *Caledonia* has also become something of an unofficial anthem for the Scots.

This collection of some of his best-loved songs will please both his army of fans and anyone who's keen to discover more about one of our premier singer-songwriters. He's drafted in the 11 members of the Perthshire Ensemble to help reinterpret ten of his tunes, including the epic *Ready For The Storm*, favourites *Broken Wings* and *Turning Away* and *Caledonia* (here the closing number). *Caledonia* featured in Celtic Woman Hit Stageshow...& CD & DVD!

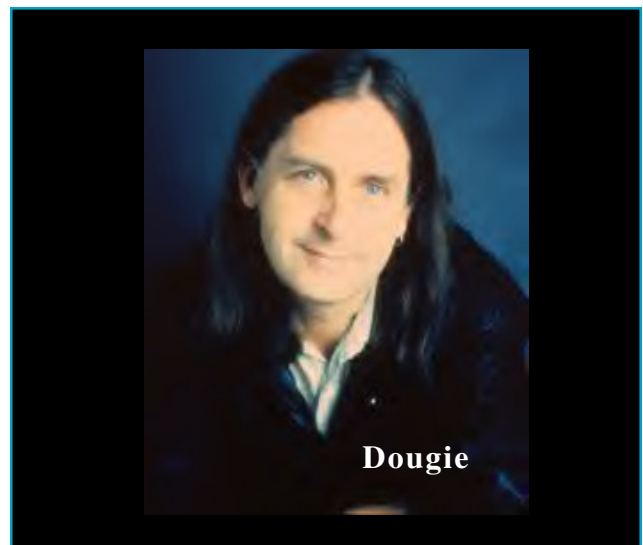
Wednesday, 28 March 2007 Great News that Dougie's song "Caledonia" is featuring in the really successful Celtic Woman show which is right now taking America by storm along with the recently released CD and DVD "Celtic Woman- A New Journey".

Wednesday, 22 August 2007 "Ever the patriot, 19 year old chart success Amy has recorded a version of a modern Scottish folk classic, Dougie MacLean's *Caledonia*. "Caledonia" is also the name of a modern Scottish folk ballad, written by Dougie MacLean somewhere between 1974 and 1977[1] and published in 1979 on an album of the same name[2]. It has the lyrics "Caledonia, you're

calling me, and now I'm going home". MacLean started playing in school, forming a band with future Silly Wizard-ites Andy Stewart and Martin Hadden. In 1974, while busking on the street, Roy Gullane approached him and recruited him to the Tannahill Weavers, with whom he stayed until 1977, when he moved to Germany, playing solo and working with Alex Campbell and Alan Roberts. He replaced Johnny Cunningham as fiddle player for Silly Wizard for six months in 1980 and returned to tour with the Tannahills before going solo in 1981 and starting his own record company, Dunkeld, in 1983. Recently his songs have been featured in theatre and film (part of *The Last of the Mohicans*), and a 40-minute film of his life and music "*The Land: Songs of Dougie MacLean*") has been screened by the BBC. MUSIC

1 The Water is Wide 2 Rolling Hills of the Border 3 Both Sides the Tweed 4 White Squall 5 Caledonia 1995 6 Rigs O' Rye 7 The Lily of the West 8 Jeannie C. 9 Mary Ellen Carter 10 Forty Five Years 11 No Man's Land

THE WATER IS WIDE During a performance, Alex may share some fascinating bit of Scottish history to bring the music to life, or he may sarcastically acknowledge the audience's obvious appreciation of good music as they burst out in laughter when he sings a selection from his album *Daft Ditties*. His quick wit and passion for his audiences have endeared him to both young and old alike.



UPCOMING EVENTS

July 2008

1 July - Pugwash, NS

Pugwash Gathering of the Clans
Downtown and Eaton Park
<http://www.pugwashvillage.com/gathering.html>

4-6 July - Kincardine, ON

Kincardine Scottish Festival
Victoria Park
<http://www.kincardinescottishfestival.ca>

5-6 July - Monterey, CA

Monterey Scottish Games & Celtic Festival
Toro County Park
<http://www.montereyscotgames.com>

10-12 July - Payson, UT

Payson Scottish Festival
Memorial Park
<http://www.paysonscottishfestival.org>

10-13 July - Linville, NC

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
MacRae Meadows on Grandfather Mountain
<http://www.gmhg.org>

10 July - 15 September - Pictou, NS

New Scotland Days
Hector Heritage Quay
http://www.townofpictou.com/special_events.html

11-12 July - Saline, MI

Saline Celtic Festival
Mill Pond Park
<http://www.salineceltic.org>

12 July - Prospect, ME

Scottish Tattoo (6:30 to 8:30 pm)
Fort Knox in the Penobscot Narrows
<http://fortknox.maineGuide.com/events.html>

12 July - Halifax, NS

Halifax Highland Games & Scottish Festival
Dartmouth Common near the McDonald Bridge
<http://www.halifaxhighlandgames.com>
(Continued on page 7)

12 July - Haliburton, ON

Haliburton Highland Games
Head Park in Haliburton Village
<http://www.haliburtonhighlandgames.com>

12-13 July - Oakland, CA

Oakland Scottish Highland Games
Dunsmuir Historic Estate
<http://www.dunsmuirgames.com>

12-13 July - Athena, OR

Athena Caledonian Games
Athena City Park
<http://www.athenacaledoniangames.org>

12-13 July - Mount Vernon, WA

Skagit Valley Highland Games & Celtic Festival
Edgewater Park
<http://www.celticarts.org>

13-14 July - Chatham, ON

Chatham-Kent Supreme Highland Games
Tecumseh Park
<http://www.tartansertoma.ca/index.html>

With many thanks to *The Dunrobin Piper* from the Clan Sutherland Society!



Meet George Way of Plean

George Way of Plean, Baron of Plean, Procurator Fiscal to the Court of the Lord Lyon - Special Guest at both the Glasgow Highland Games, Glasgow, Kentucky, and the Greenville Scottish Games, Greenville, SC this June. On the left Baron of Plean's banner.