

Sir Billy Connolly to be Grand Marshal of the NYC Tartan Day Parade

Sir Billy Connolly will lead the New York City Tartan Day Parade this year, it has been announced.

The famed Scottish comedian will lead the parade as Grand Marshal on Saturday, April 6, in front of around 30,000 spectators.

Around 1,500 participants including solo pipers and drummers, Highland dancers, pipe bands, Scottish clans and Scottish dogs will follow the "Big Yin" along Manhattan's Sixth Avenue.

The 76-year-old, who has lived in the US since 2011, has accepted the role despite announcing in December he would retire from touring.

Sir Billy said: "I'm thrilled to be this year's Grand Marshal of the New York City Tartan Day Parade.

"I can't wait to hear all those bagpipes echoing off the skyscrapers and to see Sixth Avenue awash with thousands of swaying kilts.

"It's going to be brilliant."

Previous Grand Marshals include Sir Sean Connery, Alan Cumming, Sam Heughan and Brian Cox, while KT Tunstall became the first woman to lead the parade last year.

It is the showpiece event of Tartan Week which brings a full programme of



special events to New York from April 3-8.

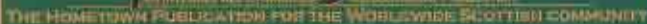
Kilt fittings, band performances, dance workshops and ceilidhs will be held in various venues across Manhattan.

Kyle Dawson, New York Tartan Day Committee president, said: "We're beyond delighted to announce that Billy Connolly will join us as Grand Marshal of this year's New York City Tartan Day Parade this April.

"For over half a century, he has entertained us all through his work and, because of this, he is beloved on both sides of the pond.

"We look forward to enjoying a big year with the Big Yin."





Send articles,
Flowers of the Forest, questions, etc.,
bethscribble@aol.com

Section B is "up" on the Internet
about the
15th of each month.
Section A is "up"
a day or so before the
first of the next month.

ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY
everyone is IRISH!

Beth Akotair Lora

A letter from your editor... Time does pass quickly... in fact, on a jet plane!

Sometimes, things hide in our computers! Yes, they do!

The particular icon I “found” today has most likely been there for five or six years...probably more. When last my computer crashed, I had a fantastic tech person who told me he had saved photos for me.

I never could find them.

All this time, they were sitting on my desktop in a file named, “Beth.”

I’m pretty good at my programs I work with all the time, but, outside of



that, my biggest computer skill is “clicking OK.”

Today, I was working on (with my AOL Assist tech) repairing my secondary email and, all of a sudden, I noticed an icon named “Beth.” “Huh?” said I.

As soon as the AOL Assist was

done, I clicked on the “Beth” file and up popped an entire list of things that I have not yet explored. I know there are photos of Calvary, Georgia’s, Mule Day, and all manner of games and occasions I had thought lost and gone.

The most wonderful treasure appeared, the photos of when we did a cruise to Nova Scotia to benefit my old publication, *The Family Tree*. Dear friend, Colin Grant-Adams, named the trip, “Kilts in the Wind.”

In the middle of this page, you’ll see most of our merry band of sailors, all dressed up for a wonderful evening.

My friend, Judy Thompson, who at that time, worked for UniGlobe Travel in Atlanta, made it all possible.

This was an exciting trip, made even more exciting by hurricanes Ivan and Jeanne - Ivan at the beginning and Jeanne just afterwards.

In remembering this wonderful trip, with so many good friends, I thought about what the Scottish community has meant to me personally for the last many, many, many years.

My life would be less precious and less everything if it were not for the



This was when we went on the Kilts in the Wind Cruise to Nova Scotia in 2004.

Scottish community.

I had worked in radio for a long time, which I loved. I was one of the first women in “on air” work in Florida, and with my boss, Carol Carpenter, among the first women to earn the title of Certified Radio Marketing Consultant from the Radio Broadcasting Institute in NYC. To this day, I have treasured friends from those days, including Carol.

However, radio did not have employee benefits at all. Most everyone at the radio station had part time jobs so they could afford the fun of radio!

When I was offered employment at the library in Moultrie, Georgia, complete with retirement, health insurance, HOLIDAYS and so much more, I jumped at that chance and worked for the library for about 17 years.

During that time, it was my goal to work with the Scottish Clans and to invite them to place

Continued on page 7

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The Fairy Glen on Skye in Scotland ~ free & beautiful & magical

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The Fairy Glen is one of the Isle of Skye's most enchanting attractions. The bumpy, off-the-beaten-path spot stands out from the surrounding farmland. The natural rock formations, cone-shaped hills dotted with ponds and scattered waterfalls, are all within one small area, making it seem as though it's the shrunken version of a large-scale geological wonder.

Though there's no definitive folklore linking the land to the magical realm, some say faeries created the dramatic landscape and still dwell within its many crevices. It's no wonder; the whimsical otherworldly landscape looks just like the kind of place you'd expect to find mythical creatures. The Isle of Skye is, after all, rich with faerie lore. However, the unique geological formations are actually the result of a landslip, similar to the one that created the nearby Quiraing.

It's easy to spend a morning or afternoon wandering among the cluster of hills. The grassy glen's natural colors are especially vivid on a sunny day. Visitors can take their time climbing the mounds or snapping photos of the stone designs tourists tend to create (though they're not nearly as impressive as the more permanent rock spiral). The best vantage point is from the top of Castle Ewan, the natural rock formation that resembles an ancient ruin. A steep, narrow trail leads directly to the top, but it does involve a bit of scrambling.

The locals consider the stone designs created by tourists to be vandalism and spend the winter undoing them each year. Since the glens are on private property, it's appropriate to respect the wishes of the locals on this matter and refrain from building with the rocks.

Know Before You Go

Note that there are no signs for the Fairy Glen. If you're heading North on the A87 (coming from Portree), turn right on the road right just before the Uig Hotel. It's about a five minute drive along a narrow, winding path to the glen, which is visible from the road. Park on the grass, but be careful not to block any traffic.

"clanlindsaysociety.co.uk"

The domain name of **The Clan Lindsay Society** website has now changed to: (See URL at the left for the UK and to the right for the USA.)

The Clan Lindsay Association USA representing the Lindsays of USA, but, welcomes Members from around the globe.



"http://www.clanlindsaysusa.org/"



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 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 every make. Hope to see you soon!

A letter from your editor, continued from page 3

their archival and genealogical materials in our genealogy library. In 17 years, about 135 clans did.

To accomplish this, it was important for me to attend Scottish Games and get to know the decision makers in the Scottish Clans.

I remember how frightened I was at first, me, a country girl, in the midst of all of that splendor, color and pipe music!

The kindness and generosity of the people I met, was unbelievable to me.

To tell the truth, I worked so hard. I would lose my voice at the end of the day at games where I had done my best to visit every single clan tent and to talk to the clansmen and clanswomen.

At the same time, it was the most fun I'd ever had!

Over the years, friends were made that have, sadly, already lasted lifetimes. Friends I will never, ever forget and with whom I shared so many joyous occasions, sad occasions and wonderful times.

Over the years, it was my great pleasure to create and implement plans for Scottish Weekend at the library in Moultrie. I think I did about 15 of those.

It was my great surprise, and a wonderful feeling, to see my publication, *The Family Tree*, grow and grow and grow. With the publication, I became friends with Scottish business people - many of whom became, and are, dear friends.

To be honest, I worked so very hard and such long hours that many times I stood on pillows in my kitchen at home when I was putting together *The Family Tree*. Back then, it was "cut and paste" layout. I was accused of drinking rubber cement as I used so very much of it in the creation of the old *Family Tree*.

I remember crying, and being so angry at myself, for if a tear fell on the page, it would smudge the paper and mean more work re-doing what I had done.

I cried because I was so very exhausted and because my legs would just hurt so badly. (Hence, the pillows on the floor.) 100 hour work weeks were common.

At the same time, no matter where I went to a Scottish Games...on the eastern seaboard of the USA or on the west coast...there would be great friends there and memories made that will last forever.

I remember when I realized that I had to be care-

ful what I said to anyone in the Scottish community. Once upon a time, a volunteer came to help type in the new names of people who had written and asked to be added to the mailing list for *The Family Tree*.

This particular gentleman worked for, maybe three hours, and then got up from the computer...but, when he got up, he placed the palms of his hands on the keyboard, and pushed... and lost the mailing list on that old and decrepit computer. The mailing service had the entire list, but, we did lose almost all of the new folks. The volunteer had thrown the new names in the trash as he went - and the trash had been taken out and put in the dumpster - and picked up in the last 10 minutes or so.

I was bemoaning the fact with my sweet and beloved friend, Angus McBryde from New Jersey, and he asked if we had a backup on the computers.

"Nope," I said. "Too expensive."

We went on laughing and talking.

The next week, a box arrived at the library and contained a brand new backup system for our computers, from Angus. I was overcome.

So, don't anybody ever say that the "Scots are stingy" around me!

So many times, the Scottish clans and individuals would provide much needed equipment or supplies or anything required, even without me saying anything.

Remember the time we needed a new security system at the genealogy library?

My late friend, Doug Talley, and I cooked up a scheme to ask for \$1.00 per household member donation so that we could get that \$1600 system. We quickly found 1600 Scots with a buck apiece!

At the same time, there was enjoyment and happiness all around me at work and at the games and Scottish Weekend from the Scottish community.

Folks ask me why the clan ads in *BNFT* are so inexpensive (\$5 per issue for a full page.)?

It is simply something I can do for the clans to, in a very small way, thank them for all the kindnesses and all of the friendships over the last many years.

Our cruise to Nova Scotia made some \$\$\$ for *The Family Tree*...and made lasting memories for everyone who traveled with us.

If I haven't thanked you in person, Thank YOU!

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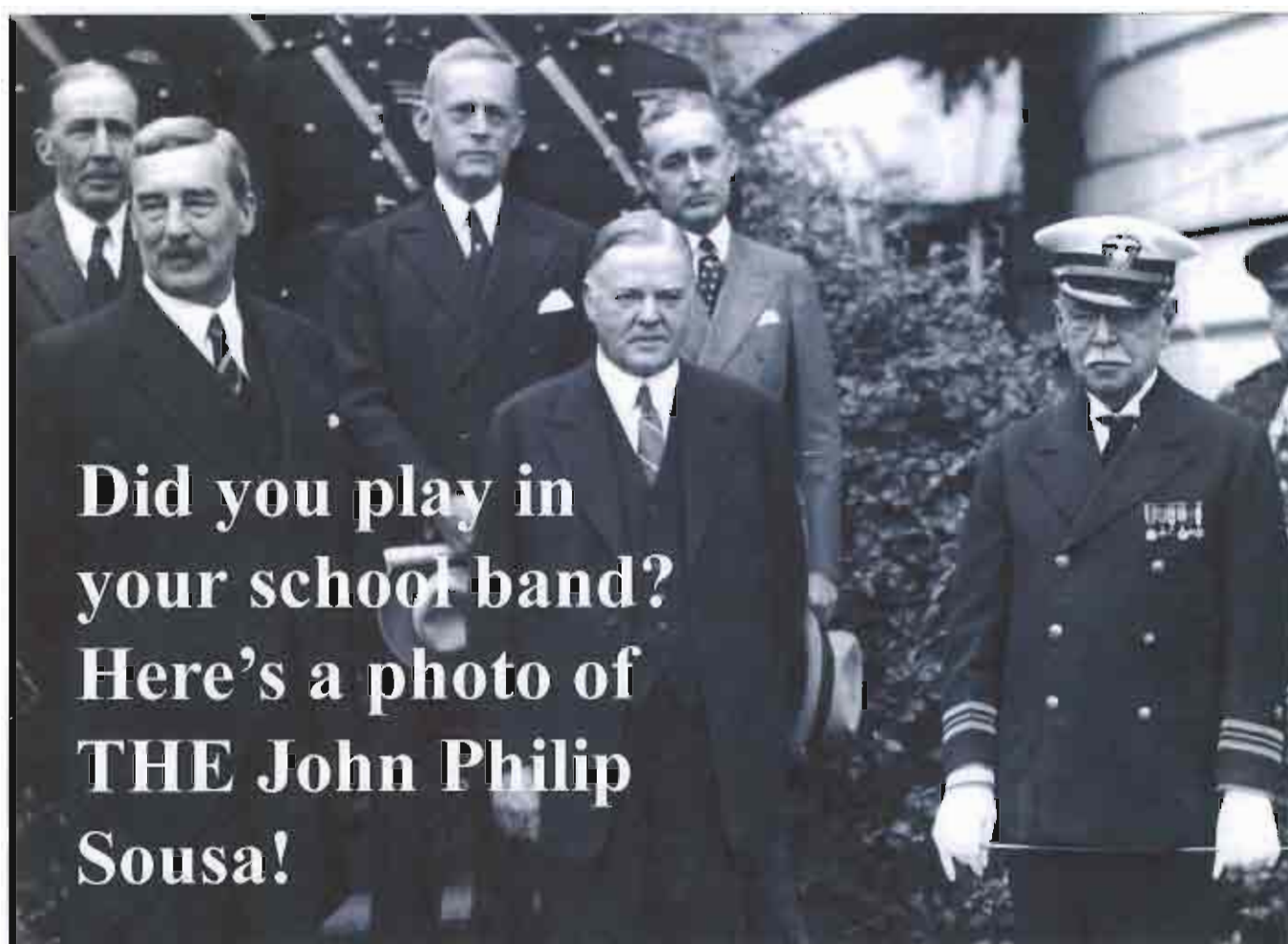


www.clanblair.org

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



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



Sir Ronald Lindsay, British Ambassador to the USA throughout the nineteen thirties, with President Hoover at The White House. The old sailor is John Philip Sousa, composer of *The Stars and Stripes Forever* and other military marches.

Both Tom and I were in our school bands...Tom (Trombone) all the way to the University of South Carolina Marching Band! Tom says he has seen ONE other photo of Mr. Sousa. This is my (French Horn) first time seeing a photo of him! He's been the "rock star" of my life! I loved /love those Sousa marches!

Thanks to the Clan Lindsay Society. For membership information, visit: www.clanlindsaysociety.org

A statue of Charles Rennie Mackintosh was unveiled just before the end of last year, in time to commemorate the 90th anniversary of his passing.

One of Scotland's most iconic artists, designers and architects, the unveiling ironically came just months after the burning of the Glasgow School of Art, the building most associated with him.

Mackintosh is depicted seated in one of his trademark chairs that he designed for the Glasgow Tea Rooms.





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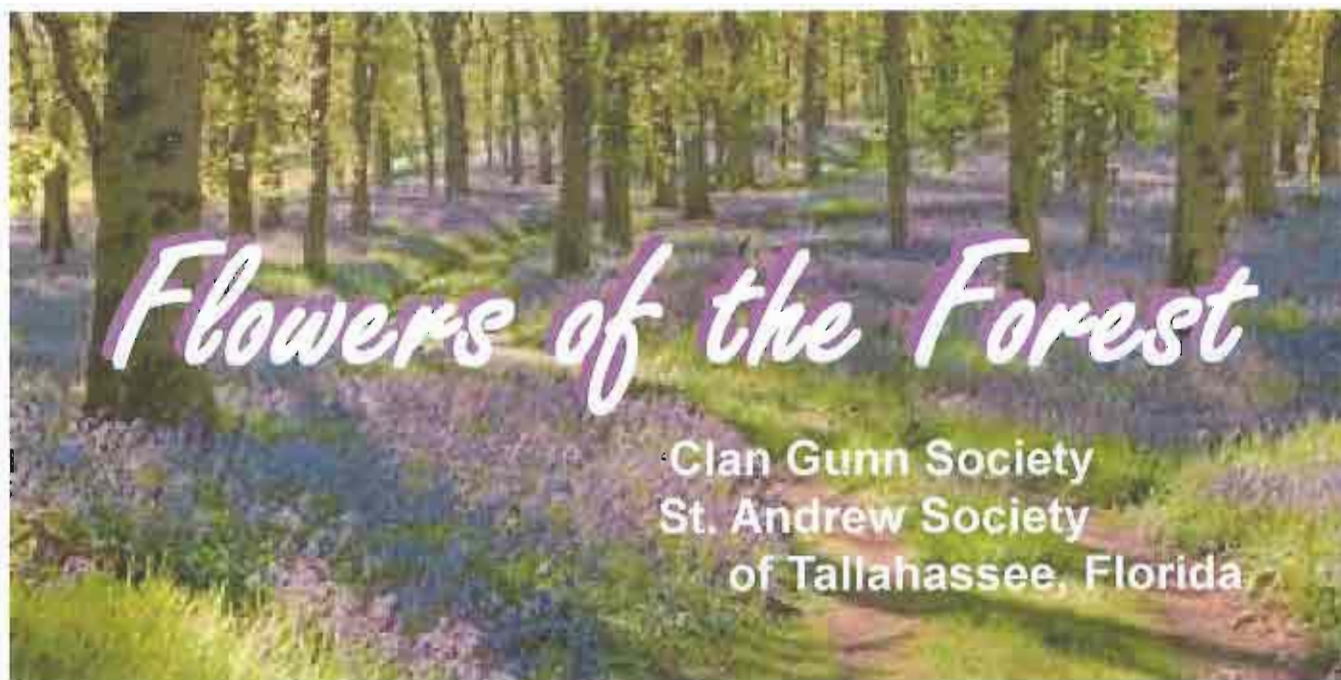
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William (Bill) Leroy Wilson passed away in Sacramento on December 24, 2017. Bill joined the Marine Corps and served in Korea, including the Inchon Landing, the retaking of Seoul and the significant Battle of the Chosin Reservoir.



Bill married Lois Oleniacz in 1952 and they raised their two children in Cleveland, Ohio and the Bay area. In 1983, Bill met Susan Squires Roman and they shared a loving, respectful and joyful marriage of 33 years until Bill's death.

In addition to being a proud Marine, Bill was an equally proud Scot. A member of Clan Gunn, he was active in the Sacramento chapters of the St. Andrew's Society, the Caledonian Club and the Scottish American Military Society.

He also played the drums in the Sacramento Cameron Pipe Band.

Bill was respected and admired as an accomplished artist. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the Academy of Art University of San Francisco in 1957 and created many beautiful paintings, sculptures and pieces of jewelry throughout the years. Bill used his artistic talents throughout his profes-

sional career as a graphic artist working for several commercial companies and agencies.

The last 38 years of his career were spent with the State of California Department of Water Resources.

LTC Colonel Rodney Raymond (Rod) Letchworth, U.S. Marine Corps (retired) with his wife by his side, "FLEW WEST" on February 18, 2019.

Rod was born in Greenville, Florida, on March 8th, 1935 to Robert A. and Jacqueline P. Letchworth.

In 1941, the family moved to a 60 acre farm (across from what is now the National Cemetery) in Tallahassee, Florida.

He would say, "It was a wonderful way to grow up."

Rod was a graduate of Leon High School, where he lettered in track. He achieved a B.S. in Science from FSU and B.S. from the Naval Post Graduate School Monterey, California, a Masters from George Washington University and also spent a semester at a Bible college in Columbia, SC.

He was a member of Beta Gamma Sigma & Business Honor Society and MENSA top 2% member. After enlisting, he was Rifle Instructor at Parris Island and then became an officer (Mustang) and USMC fighter pilot. An aviator extraordinaire, he flew

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Elliot Clan Society, USA

Membership Information 2019

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 Elliotts 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

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 or write

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

(Fortiter Et Recte)

Boldly and Rightly





Final resting place of revered clan chief, Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, discovered

A memorial service is to be held for a revered clan chief after his final resting place was discovered some 300 years after his death.

Sir Ewen Cameron of Lochiel, 17th chief of Clan Cameron, was regarded as a "true leader" of his people but the whereabouts of his grave remained unknown.

Now, it has been discovered that Sir Ewen - known as the Ulysses of the Highlands given his brute strength and physical stature - was laid to rest on an ancient burial ground at Loch Eil.

All trace of the grave was wiped out after the Jacobite defeat at Culloden.

A search for the resting place of Sir Ewen was launched last year by Thomas Cameron, commissioner of the Clan Cameron Association of North America, who is based in Chicago.

Clan historian Chris Doak discovered a letter written in 1719 which described the clan chief's funeral.

The document, written by a Reverend James Hart, described how 13 pipers and thousands of men gathered to pay their respects to Sir Ewen.

Donald Cameron, 27th clan chief, told The Times: "Sir Ewen was one of the great clan chiefs of history and deserves to be remembered."

A plaque will be placed by Loch Eil and a memorial service held this summer for Sir Ewen as clan members from around the world meet for their annual gathering.

Following Culloden, Old Achnacarry, a traditional home of the Cameron chiefs, was burnt to the ground along with a huge ash tree at Kilmallie which was revered by Lochiel and his men for many generations.

Sir Ewen's long fighting career included the Battle of Killiecrankie in 1689 and an onslaught at Inverlochy in early 1650, where he led an attack on dozens of Cromwell's men - sent to build a new garrison in the Highlands. Despite this battle record, legend has it that Sir Ewen never lost a drop of blood or received a wound in conflict.

Watch this publication for dates of the Memorial Service. For membership information in the Clan Cameron Association, visit: <http://clan-cameron.org/>



Clan MacCord Society

Invites for membership all spelling variations and descendants of McCord (a)(e)(y).

Also McCourt, McChord, McCoard, Cord(e), McCart, McCort, Cort(e)(s) and Flynn, McFettridge and Kane.

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Clan Home Society (Int.) Stone Mountain 2015

Scottish Education

From a Tour Through Scotland in 1807



With thanks to **Alastair McIntyre** and electricScotland.com

POLITICIANS have widely differed with regard to the wisdom of enlightening the poor of a country by education.

Upon such a subject men of plain understandings would naturally wonder that any variance of opinion could arise. They would conceive that he who prefers darkness to light, who thinks that the common people are most likely to advance the ends of their creation, that they would be more loyal, more brave, and more virtuous, by continuing in a state of ignorance and stupidity, would, by a parity of reasoning, insist that the blind were the most likely to move with certainty, and the crippled with vigour.

But a distempered prejudice still maintains that to illumine the head is to extinguish the heart; that if the humble are taught reading, writing, and a little useful arithmetic, they will soon fancy themselves under the influence of inspiration, and feel as if they had been intended for some high destiny; that they will desert or disgrace the station of life allotted to them by Providence and perish upon the dunghill as vagabonds, or by the gallows as forgers.

The poor of Scotland seem to have decided this important question; they can read, and yet are loyal; they can write, and yet are honest; they can calculate, and yet are virtuous.

By the wise and salutary diffusion of education, particularly in parts which appear to be impenetrable to civilization, upon the sides of frightful mountains, or in dismal glens seldom visited by the rays of

Heaven, the astonished and admiring traveller beholds a spectacle at once gratifying and affecting.

In a hut of branches and sods, when the hour of labour is over, the young, enlightened by those, institutions which do honour to human nature, are seen instructing those who are younger, or consoling the last hours of venerable and sightless age by reading aloud the Scriptures, or some pious book, printed in their own language; yet in this sorry dwelling the benighted traveller may rest in safety amid the howling

storm; not a hand will be extended to him but in kindness, not a voice will be raised but to charm his ear with the song of other times, or, if he understands the language, to store his mind with the wild, romantic, and beautiful effusions of the Gaelic Muse.

It is equally singular and true that one

can scarcely meet with a poor man in any part of Scotland, who is not possessed of the knowledge particularized in the commencement of this chapter, and to this he frequently adds a little acquaintance with Latin.

The results of this system of education, which I shall briefly explain, are of the most beneficent nature. If the poor remain at home, their deportment is sedate, upright, and orderly; if they attempt their fortunes in other countries, they bear with them a superior understanding, and a knowledge sharpened by poverty, which enables them to do honour to any situation, and frequently to improve those arts, studies,

Continued on page 17



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MacDuffee
Clan Society
of America



and pursuits by which the power, prosperity, and character of a country, are at once extended and secured.

The emigration of the humbler classes of the Scotch is a subject of frequent remark. Poor, but cultivated, they quit their native country in the pursuit of fortune in other climes not more congenial to merit, but more in want of talent, and better capable of rewarding it.

How happy is it that we live in an age and under a constitution which are propitious to genius, under which humility of origin presents no insurmountable barrier to the advancement of any one, who, to intellect, unites integrity, industry, and prudence.

In the fair pursuit of fortune they spread themselves in the most remote regions of the earth. The celebrated Field-Marshal Keith, who, on account of his having joined King James's party in the old rebellion, when he was about eighteen or nineteen years old, at the instigation of his mother, after the battle of Sheriffmuir was obliged to escape to France, and who afterwards had a great share in the revolution which raised Elizabeth the daughter of Peter the Great, to the throne of all the Russias, and was afterwards the chief counsellor and companion of the King of Prussia, is said to have related the following anecdote, illustrative of the erratic disposition of the Scotch:

Being sent upon an important mission to a Turkish officer of high rank, he was received with all the honours and solemnities usual upon such occasions in the east, and which so much encumber and procrastinate the issue of matters of business.

The Turk, to his surprise, seemed to feel as he did, a wish to terminate their negotiation as speedily as possible: and upon his learning that the Marshal spoke French, a language with which he too was acquainted, he proposed dismissing their respective attendants, and concluding the objects of their inter-

view in privacy, which the Marshal acceded to.

As soon as the retinues of both these personages had retired, the Turk, to the utter astonishment of the Marshal, walked up to him, and in broad Scotch said, "Weel, man, when was ye last at Aberdeen?"

On an explanation, which immediately followed this extraordinary interrogatory, it appeared that this eastern chief was no other than the son of a Scottish peasant, who remembered to have seen Marshal Keith in Aberdeenshire, and who, in the pursuit of ameliorating his condition, had wandered into Turkey, where by his good conduct he had raised himself to Asiatic honours.

The same enterprising spirit has led them to colonize where one might naturally suppose only the most powerful inducements of rapid accumulation of riches could have attracted them.

A number of Scotchmen have for the last four years been settled on the mountains of Caucasus, to whom his Imperial Majesty of Russia has granted, with that noble liberality which always characterises his mind, a charter of

extraordinary rights and privileges, by which, in order to induce them to extend their trade and manufactures in a district thinly peopled, and bordering on the territories of many uncivilized tribes of Mahometans and Heathens, they are placed on the same footing with the Evangelical Society of Sarepta.

His Majesty secures to them the perpetual possession of ample allotments of land, as near as possible to the village which they have founded and they are exempted from a variety of imposts.

The free exercise of their religion is confirmed to them; and the administration of their internal affairs is forever vested in a chief magistrate to be chosen amongst themselves, who is authorized to admit



Continued on page 19



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as settlers amongst them every description of Mahometans and Heathens, being freemen, and taking the oath of allegiance to his Imperial Majesty.

Why has the Irish peasantry been so frequently rendered the object of an angry policy?

A peasantry derived from the same stock as the Scotch, speaking the same language, whose customs and manners were originally the same, and whose natural talents are, to an extraordinary degree, strong and vivacious? -Why, but for the want of the same benign spirit of instruction?

Were any one who had visited Ireland to make their amelioration the subject of his pen, I am persuaded that the conclusion of all his reasoning would be, education 'without proselytism.

Let us compare, by the assistance of a venerable author, the present with the past condition of the Scottish peasantry.

In the year 1698, that illustrious Caledonian patriot, Andrew Fletcher, of Saltoun, who so nobly declared that he would readily lose his life to save his country, and would not do a base thing to serve it, tells us, "There are at this day in Scotland two hundred thousand people begging from door to door; and though the number of them be perhaps double to what it was formerly, by reason of this present great distress, (a famine then prevailed), yet in all times there have been about one hundred thousand of these vagabonds, who have lived without any regard or subjection either to the laws of the land or even those, of God and Nature; fathers incestuously accompanying with their own daughters, the son with the mother, and the brother with the sister.

No magistrate ever could discover that they had been baptized, or in what way one in a hundred went out of the world.

They are frequently guilty of robbery, and sometimes of murder.

In years of plenty many thousands of them meet together in the mountains, there they feast and riot for many days; and at country weddings, markets, burials, and on other public occasions, they are to be seen, both men and women, perpetually drunk, cursing, blaspheming, and fighting together."

These dreadful evils were not mowed down by the sword, they were not exterminated by ferocious penal laws; they were put to the blush by the mild and salutary precepts of mental illumination, the light of which they could not encounter, and withdrew forever from its presence.

This system of education gives to the manner of a low Scotchman an air of sedateness, acuteness, and consideration, which I have never witnessed in the same class in any other country.



A low Irishman frequently shapes his answer by a quick and often erroneous anticipation, before the question propounded is half finished.

A Scotchman hears you without interruption, and, after a pause of reflection, conveys a firm, modest, and generally a luminous answer.

So strong is the thirst for knowledge amongst the lower orders in Scotland, that small farmers and petty tradesmen are known to form themselves into literary societies; and it is related, upon authority, that the workmen in the lead mines of the Earl of Hopetoun, at Leadhills, have a common library supported by contribution, containing several thousand volumes.

These people work only six hours, and therefore have time to gratify this extraordinary passion for literature.

The philanthropic and political reader will, I am sure, be gratified with a brief account of the enlightened system by which these admirable traits in the

Continued on page 21



ARE YOU TRAVELING TO SCOTLAND?



THEN, JOIN SCOTTISH
HERITAGE USA, INC.
BECAUSE;

Membership Benefits
Include:

- ✦ Free admission to ALL National Trust for Scotland properties
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- ✦ Scotland In Trust (The National Trust for Scotland's quarterly magazine)
- ✦ Scottish Heritage USA newsletters
- ✦ Discount admission to Member's Reception following the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

Visit us at www.scottishheritageusa.org and join **NOW!**

Scottish character are effected.

Parish schools were erected by an Act of Parliament of Scotland, passed in 1646, which enacted that a school should be established in every parish in Scotland, for the express purpose of educating the poor; it obliges the heritors and ministers of each parish to meet and assess the several heritors with the requisite sum for building a schoolhouse, and to elect a schoolmaster, and modify a salary for him in all time to come.

The salary is ordered not to be under one hundred nor above two hundred merks, that is, not under 5l. 11s. 1½d. nor above 11l. 2s. 3d. and the assessment is to be laid on the land in the same proportion as it is rated for the support of the clergy, and as it regulates the payment of the land tax's.

But in case the heritors of any parish, or the majority of them, shall fail to discharge this duty, then the persons forming what is called the Committee of Supply of the County (consisting of the principal landholders) or any five of them, are authorised by the statute to impose the assessment instead of them, on the representation of the presbytery in which the parish is situated.

To secure the choice of a proper teacher, the right of election on the part of the heritors, by a statute passed in 1693, chap. 22, is made subject to the review and control of the presbytery of the district, who have a right to examine the person proposed as to his qualifications as a teacher, and as to his proper deportment in office, when settled in it.

This election on the part of the heritors is therefore only a presentment of a person for the approbation of the presbytery.

The statute of 1646 was repealed on the accession of Charles II. in 1660, on account of its having been passed during the Commonwealth, and lay dor-

mant until after the Revolution, when it was re-enacted by the Scottish parliament in the same form, and remains in force to this hour.

All this was excellent; but the income of the schoolmaster, fixed by the provisions of the act, and arising also from the compensations of his scholars, was by much too small.

This has been in part remedied: the teachers have now a salary of 15/. per annum, and a portion of land, varying from three to more acres, according to the quality of the land, a small house to reside in, and a school-room built and kept in repair by the society.

These teachers are Presbyterians, and under the superintendence of the general assembly.

The church establishment of Scotland is

favourable to its school establishments the constant residence of the clergy upon their benefices places the conduct of the schoolmaster and the application of his scholars under the fostering protection of his superintendence, and the teacher himself is often appointed to a vacant benefice.



Instruction in these schools is deeply tinged with religion. The Catechism of the Assembly, the Proverbs of Solomon, and the New and Old Testament, either in English or in Gaelic, impart to the mind of the rustic student a knowledge of the sacred writings, conformably to the doctrines of Calvin. To preserve their flock, and not to enlarge it by proselytism, seems to have been the sound wisdom of the Scottish legislators. I am assured that proselytism is never attempted. In the country, the English language, writing and arithmetic, are taught at the rate of six shillings, and Latin at the rate of ten or twelve shillings a year. In the towns the prices are higher, but in some places lower than the sums mentioned.

We'll continue this article in Section B of the BNFT April issue.

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
273 Amy Clegg Drive
Gray, GA 31032
<alsrx95@gmail.com>



A Historical Handbook to Scotland

by Duncan MacPhail

This book is useful in EVERY Scottish clan tent!

You may order, if you'd like to use a credit card, from <http://www.amazon.com>
or a USPS Money Order or Check

\$25.00 includes s/h

from Beth Gay-Freeman

688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523



We want our stone back!

The city of Perth was the original location of the Stone of Scone, the ancient coronation stone upon which Scottish kings were anointed. That is, until English King Edward I made off with it in 1296 and installed it in Westminster Abbey. That is, until Scottish Nationalists made off with it in 1950 and carried it to Arbroath Abbey.

Brought back to Westminster, the Stone was at last officially returned to Scotland in 1996 and it was displayed at Edinburgh Castle. Perth has been undergoing a revival in recent years, and city officials have put in a claim to have the Stone returned to Perth, to be displayed in the renovated City Hall, set to open in 2019.

Edinburgh Castle, though, insists that it should stay with them, and the Commissioners of the Regalia, which have official custody, says the decision can only be made by Queen Elizabeth - and the English, anyway, may want it back to crown their next monarch.

Rod Letchworth, *continued from page 11*

289 combat missions in 11 months with the VMA 214 Black Sheep squadron at Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe, Hawaii. In Vietnam he flew an A-4 Skyhawk fighter jet providing close air support for Marine and Army units.

For his heroism and bravery, Rod was awarded 2 Distinguished Flying Cross medals; 23 Air Medals; 4 Viet Nam Service Medal Stars; The National Defence Service Medal; Viet Nam Cross of Gallantry. W. Palm; The Viet Nam Campaign Medal with Device; Navy Unit Commendation with Gold Star; Unit Commendation with Gold Star and Letter of Appreciation from President Johnson; Navy Commendation with Gold Star; Bronze Star; Pistol Expert - 13 Awards and Rifle Awards - 3 Awards.

Rod was a Renaissance man, truly a master of many fields; he was a published author of several books including *The Wakulla Volcanoes*, which a local theater produced a live production of the fun memories in that book. He also authored a memoir, *Surviving PTSD: A Combat Marine's Story*.

In 2017, he earned a Silver Medal at the US National Senior Games in Discus Throw and holds numerous gold and silver medals for discus and shot put Senior Games. In 21 years, Rod won gold medals in five different age groups.

Survivors include his loving wife, Julie; brothers, Reverend Gary W. and Larry R. Letchworth; sis-

ter, Elizabeth L. Garrett; the mother of his children, Gaile Ortgies; children, Terrie (Terry) Russel, Pattie (Gary) Neuman, Rod Jr. (Lissa) Letchworth and Chuck (Leigh) Letchworth; children thru marriage, Dr. Russell (Rue) Collins, Debi Collins, Hart (Anita) Collins; 19 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. Rod was preceded in death by his parents, brother, Lance G. Letchworth and previous wife, Martha Collins Letchworth.

Rod was a proud member of various community organizations and was a charter member of Lafayette Presbyterian Church. He valued his time with the Quiet Birdmen of Tallahassee, St. Andrew Society, Lions Club in NC and FL. He cherished his friends at Westminster Oaks and his church family Saint Paul's United Methodist Church.

The family received friends on Friday, February 22, 2019, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, with the service following at noon. A Military Honors and Patriot's Farewell was held at the Tallahassee National Cemetery. For those wishing to make memorial donation, Rod was a strong advocate for The Children's Home Society <<https://www.chsfl.org/donate/>>; St Paul's: <<https://www.saintpaulsumc.org/give/>> and for soldiers suffering from PTSD & homeless vets, donate to the Kearney Center <<https://kearneycenter.org/donate/>>

"Do not forget those who fought for our Freedom."



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

24th Chief of Clan Gregor

Clan Gregor
has
Great Lakes,
New England,
Pacific
Northwest,
Western
United States
and
Southeast
Chapters



For membership,
contact:
120 Wicksford Glen
Sandy Springs,
GA 30350

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,
Secretary
5 Alloa Road
CAMBUS by Alloa
Clackmannanshire
FK10 2NT
Scotland

Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

Using Academic Journals and Theses for Genealogical Research

Bryan L. Mulcahy, MLS

Academic journals and advanced degree theses often contain information useful for research. Academic libraries are the primary source for these types of research tools. While academic researchers are seldom identified as a group that commonly engage in genealogical studies for their own interests, they frequently utilize similar methods and address topics of interest to anyone doing genealogy. One of the primary benefits common to both of these research tools is the quality of indexing required for all sources. Many of these sources can be borrowed through inter-library loan. Most genealogical materials borrowed in genealogical research come from academic libraries.

One of the major focal points covered in both sources involves the historical development of communities. Social historians are actively involved in projects that study patterns of relationships within a community and their presence in the larger historical context of a particular time and place. Results are compiled utilizing primary historical source materials and statistical data. This combination of data intersects with the concerns and interests of genealogists in helping to understand the historical context in which our ancestors lived. Genealogists can use this data to answer many of the “why” and “what” questions we have about the lives of our ancestors.

Research topics explored include relationships between kinship and economics, inheritance patterns, and geographic mobility. While the main focus is on history, the scope of investigation usually involves subject areas like demographics, sociology, anthropology, women’s studies, as well as ethnic populations and cultural studies. When these projects are

completed, the findings and conclusions are published in various academic journals and books. These published materials include the methodology used, source citations, footnotes, and other related information. For graduate students, many publish their research data and conclusions as part of their Master’s theses and Doctoral dissertations.

When researching genealogical holdings in academic libraries, materials are cataloged under the subject heading of Social History and Statistics (the academic term for genealogy). This would apply to printed books, academic journals, and theses. Using the search term genealogy may lead to incomplete searches when using a library catalog based on the LC subject classification system which is used in academic libraries.

When researching in a locality or region, check to see the location of an academic library in the vicinity with a social history and statistics collection related to genealogical or historical research. Most academic/university libraries have online catalogs that offer the following services:

1. Search for titles and subject holdings; 2. Online study/finding guides and tutorial; 3. Contact information for specific departments/collections within the library

These services are available to the general public in most cases. Many university libraries offer a courtesy library card to researchers who are not students. Researchers are advised to search the online catalog prior to their visit to see what materials the

Continued on page 27



The Clan Macneil Association of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept Names" then you have found the clan you have been searching for.



"O'n D'thainig thu."
Remember the men from whom
you have come.

The Clan Macneil President: Kenneth McNeil,
3920 N. St. Joseph Ave., Evansville, IN 47720-1203
<mckennypam.1203@hotmail.com>

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| * Macneil | * Mcniel | * Niell | * McGougan |
| * MacNeil | * McNiel | * O'Neal | * McGrail |
| * Macniel | * Mcneill | * O'Neil | * McGrail |
| * MacNiel | * McNeill | * O'Niel | * Mcgrail |
| * Macneill | * Mcneal | * O'Neill | * Mcgrail |
| * MacNeill | * McNeale | * Oneil | * McGugan |
| * MacNeillie | * McNeilage | * Oneill | * Macgugan |
| * Macneal | * Mcneilage | * Nelson | * McGuigan |
| * MacNeal | * McNelly | * Neilson | ...and |
| * Macneale | * McNelly | * Nielson | * McGuigan |
| * MacNeilage | * McNeally | * MacGougan | |
| * Macneilage | * Mcneally | * Macgougan | |
| * MacNelly | * Neil | * Macgrail | |
| * Macnelly | * Neal | * MacGugan | |
| * MacNeally | * Neall | * Macgugan | |
| * Macneally | * Neale | * MacGuigan | |
| * Mcneil | * Neill | * Macguigan | |
| * McNeil | * Niel | * McGougan | |





Mushroom anyone?

The Bunnet Stane (or Bonnet Stone) is a distinctively shaped rock outcrop in Fife, Scotland. The stone is about 20 feet long, 10 feet wide, and just over three feet thick.

The stone's appearance as a strangely balancing rock has led to intriguing theories about its origins. Legends claim the rock served as a Pictish king's tombstone or a Druid altar. However, the rock's warped look is actually just the result of natural erosion.

Bryan L. Mulcahy, *continued from page 25*

library has, where the materials are located within the library, whether they are restricted to in-house use only or may be available for circulation or inter-library loan. Viewing of Special Collection materials usually requires an advance appointment, and most material in Special Collections does not leave the room where it is located, although there may be exceptions to that general rule in some cases. For example, you may be able to request copies of non-fragile Special Collections material, once you determine exactly what you need for your research.

Genealogical and historical societies are another source for assistance. These societies usually provide research assistance in using all types of libraries and archives within their service area. They can be especially helpful in cases of assisting patrons in academic libraries.

Bryan L. Mulcahy
Fort Myers Regional Library
bmulcahy@leegov.com

Clan MacLellan's 2019 AGM set for September 5th - 8th

Clan MacLellan's AGM will be held in tandem with the Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival (www.scotfest.com), to be held September 5th through the 8th in Estes Park, Colorado.

Now is the time to make your reservations. The hotels and cabins are typically booked well in advance of this

f e s t i v a l through the entire town of Estes Park.

T h e home base for C l a n MacLellan will be



Brynwood on the River (710 Moraine Ave., Estes Park, CO 80517. Cabins and rooms are available at this time. Clan MacLellan members and families have the opportunity to reserve first. Call 970-586-3475 or 877-626-9890 for reservations. Please tell them you are with Clan MacLellan and/or Clan MacDuff. They do give senior and veteran's discounts. (www.brynwood.com/accomodations).

You can visit the Estes Park Tourism Center's website, where you can find information about other lodging. View the visitors guide at <www.visitestespark.com>

Clan MacLellan has events planned beginning the Wednesday prior to the festival, continuing through the Tuesday after the festival.

Contact Jill Burt at <jillburtmac@gmail.com> for a complete schedule.



Clan Forrester

Society

Come - join the Forresters

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.



Contact: **Ben Forrester**,
Membership Chairman
1034 Blue Heron Drive
Commerce, GA 30529
Phone: 706-335-7688
Email: benbf@windstream.net



FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester /
Forster / Forester / Forster / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families



The well-known Scottish landmark, the thirteenth-century Bridge of Doon (also known as Brig o' Doon, gave its name to the musical *Brigadoon*, which tells the supernatural tale of a mysterious Scottish village that appears for only one day every one hundred years.

No one from Brigadoon may ever leave, or the enchantment will be broken and the village will disappear into the mist forever.

Two American tourists, lost in the Scottish Highlands, come across the village just as a wedding is about to be celebrated, and consequently their arrival has serious implications for the village's inhabitants.

The original production opened on Broadway in 1947 and ran for 581 performances before transferring across the pond to London's West End.

Ten Sights to see in Edinburgh

- * The Royal Mile
- * Holyrood House
- * Edinburgh Castle
- * Mary King's Close
- * St. Giles Cathedral
- * Edinburgh University
- * Princess Street
- * New Town
- * Greyfriars Churchyard
and Greyfriars Bobby

Mule-headed stubborn?Most likely so.

Your editor's long-time and wonderful friend, Betty Forrester, gave me this photograph a long time ago.

It shows her husband, the late Jerry Forrester, making your editor an Honourary Member of the Clan Forrester.

The Honourary Membership is dated 16 October 1999.

It was presented, along with a beautiful Clan Forrester sash, at Grandfather Mountain the next July.

The handsome certificate is in my library/den today...and I always chuckle when I remember WHY I was honoured by this wonderful group!

In part, the certificate says, "Whereas, Elizabeth "Beth" Gay has demonstrated traits and behaviors typical of the family; loyal and unselfish friendship, long term devotion and commitment to many endeavors, undaunted courage to tackle seemingly insurmountable obstacles - more particularly known as **mule-headed stubbornness!**"

Looking back on my life, both personal and professional, I think that mule-headed stubbornness has saved me many, many times.

My personal motto, conceived years before this honor from Clan Forrester was ever thought about, is; Shirk Not the Impossible Task. Stubbornness will save you.





CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY



SEPTS

Airih, Alirdes, Allardas,
Allardice, Allardyce,
Allerdyce, Alydes, Ardes,
Auchinloch, Ballewen,
Blair, Bonar, Bonnar,
Banner, Bonteln, Bontine,
Bontyne, Bountene,
Buchlyrie, Buchlyry,
Bullman, Buntain, Buntan,
Buntin, Buntine, Buntling,
Buntan, Buntin, Buntyn,
Buntyn, Bunting, Conyers,
Crampshee, Cransy,
Crausie, Drumaguhossie,
Drumagassie,
Drumaguhassie, Duchray,
Duchway, Dugaldson,
Durchray, Esbank,
Fintraie, Fintray, Fintrie,
Glennie, Glenry, Graine,
Graeme, Grahame,
Graham, Grim, Grime,
Grimes, Grimin, Hadden,
Hacidon, Haddin,
Holdane, Halden, Hastie,
Haldine, Hasty, Hasly,
Howden, Howe, Howie,
Kilpatrick, Lingo,
MacCriban, MacGibbon,
MacGilvern,
MacGilvernack,
MacGilvernoel,
MacGibbon, MacGrime,
MacGrimen, MacIlvern,
MacIlvernack,
MacKibben, MacKibbin,
MacKibbins, MacPiol,
MacPioll, MacPolts,
MacRibon, MacRigh,
MacRis, MacRiss,
MacShile, MacShille,
MacShillie, Maharg,
Monteith, Monteith,
Monzie, Orchille,
Pitcorian, Piail, Pyati, Pye,
Pyott, Reddoch, Reddock,
Rednack, Riddick,
Riddech, Riddock,
Serjeant, Sirowan,
Sterling, Strawn, Strawn

*If you are a Graham
or Sept of Graham,
you are cordially
invited to share
in a proud and
noble heritage.
Join the
Clan Graham
Society today!*

**CATHERINE AND JAMES GRAHAM
DUCHESS AND 8TH DUKE OF MONTROSE
CHIEF OF THE CLAN GRAHAM**



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www.clangrahamsociety.org • www.facebook.com/north.a.graham

SAVE THE DATES



CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY

2019 AGM • JULY 11-14

GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA

Save the dates for July 11-14, 2019, and come to the birthplace of the Clan Graham Society in North Carolina for its Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Below is tentative information. Please check our website and Facebook page for AGM updates at <www.clangrahamsociety.org> and <www.facebook.com/ClanGrahamSociety>. Download a print copy and registration form there.

Tentative Itinerary: Thursday, July 11, 2019 - 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.: Arrivals and registration at Green Park Inn, Blowing Rock, N.C.; 2 - 3:30 p.m.: Whisky Tasting at Best Western Mountain Lodge in Banner Elk, N.C. Please register early at <<http://www.gmhg.org/homepage.shtml>>; 4 p.m.: MacRae Meadows opens for Sheep Dog Demonstration and Celtic Music (gates 2 and 3 open); 6:30 p.m.: Clan Graham Picnic.

Please remember that access to MacRae Meadows is limited after 5 p.m. while *The Bear* is run up the mountain.

7 - 10 p.m.: Torchlight Opening Ceremony and Calling of the Clans at Grandfather Mountain

Friday, July 12, 2019 - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Council meeting at Green Park Inn, Blowing Rock; 9 a.m.

4 p.m.: Grandfather Mountain Highland Games; 6:30 - 11 p.m.: Friday night Celtic Rock Concert at MacRae Meadows (gates 2 and 3 open at 6 p.m.); 8:15 p.m.: Scottish Country Dance Gala at Lees-McRae College.

Saturday, July 13, 2019 - 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Grandfather Mountain Highland Games; 6:30 p.m.: Clan Graham Society AGM Banquet at Green Park Inn, Blowing Rock, N.C.; 9 p.m.: Mugdock Auction (immediately following the AGM Banquet) Bring items for the auction to benefit Society scholarships and maintenance of Mugdock Castle. An auction form will be included in the registration packets when members arrive at the hotel. Please fill this out before handing over your items to the AGM Committee. We will be having a Silent Auction as well as a Live Auction for select items to be auctioned at the beginning of the evening.

Sunday, July 14, 2019 - 8 a.m.: Grandfather Mountain Highland Games; 10 a.m.: Worship Service and Kirkin' of the Tartan outside the Main Gate on Grandfather Mountain (bring folding chairs); 11 a.m.: All Grahams meet at Graham Tent for group photo and to gather for the Parade; 11:30 a.m.: Parade of Tartans; 4 p.m.: Closing Ceremonies.





The Armstrong Clan Society

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

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the State of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from United States Federal Income Taxes. On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon, King of Arms in Scotland, granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left corner of this page. Our motto "Semper Invictus" can be translated as "Always Unconquered."

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society

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

Membership

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

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

Clan Davidson Society - NA

2019 Annual General Meeting

The 2019 Clan Davidson Society-NA Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held in conjunction with the Alma Highland Festival on the grounds of the Alma College Campus in Alma, Michigan.

The dates for the event are May 25th, May 26th, and May 27th, 2019.

The Clan Davidson Tent will be hosted by Jeff and Tracey Smith, TCs for Regon12.

They will be assisted by Lizzy Fawcett, TC for Region 3 in Canada.

This is one of the premier Highland Games in the northern part of the mid-west due to its popularity with competitors in Highland Dancing, Piping, Pipe Bands, Scottish Athletes and other events that flock in from nearby Canada.

There will be a Clan Dinner on Saturday evening at the Piper's Grill & Brew starting at 7:00 PM. [<https://www.pipersgrillandbrew.com/>].

Please address your questions to Jeff/Tracey at (508) 572-3533 [lastingimpressions16@yahoo]



About bagpipes...

Although we associate bagpipes with Scotland today, the instrument is of ancient origin and can be traced to ancient Persia.

A bagpipe-like instrument was also known to the ancient Egyptians and Greeks.

The bagpipe was introduced to England by the Romans and from there it spread to Scotland and Ireland. It was used as a military instrument by the Celts.

By the 13th century, bagpipes were used as court instruments by minnesingers and troubadours.

Near Fort Duquesne, Pennsylvania, in 1758, Major James Grant of the Scots Highland Regiment, was under the command of General John Forbes, ordered that the bagpipes be played in order to regroup his troops. This was the first time the pipes were heard in the Ohio River Valley.

Continued on page 35

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,
MacComle, Maccomle, 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



Saint Patrick's Day (Feast of Saint Patrick or the Day of the Festival of Patrick), is a religious festival celebrated on March 17th; on the date of the death of Saint Patrick who was considered to be the foremost patron Saint of Ireland. The day commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland.

It is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, the Canadian provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador and the British Overseas Territory of Montserrat. St. Patrick's day is also widely celebrated in the United States, Great Britain, Argentina, Australia and New Zealand.

In 17th century, this day was made an official Christian feast day by the Catholic Church. Celebrations include public parades, festivals, and the wearing of green, shamrocks and a whole lot of drinking! The celebration became popular after the Lenten restrictions on eating and consumption of alcohol was lifted.

According to the Declaration, believed to be allegedly written by Patrick, the Saint was a 5th-century Romano-British Christian missionary and bishop in Ireland. It is believed that he was born in Roman Britain in the fourth century, into a wealthy family.

His father was a deacon and his grandfather was a priest in the Christian church. At the age of sixteen, he was kidnapped by Irish raiders and taken as a slave to Gaelic Ireland. Spending six years there and work-

About bagpipes, *continued from page 33*

The haunting sound of the bagpipe has led many of our Scottish and Irish ancestors to war and has played over many a grave and has brightened dances and festivities.

Today, bagpipes are being adapted into new styles of music at the same time the old traditions are being preserved.

ing as a shepherd, according to the Declaration that during this time he "found God". And that God told him to flee to the coast, where a ship would be waiting to take him home.

After making his way home, Patrick went on to become a priest to convert the pagan Irish to Christianity.

During this period, for many centuries many legends grew up around Patrick and he became Ireland's foremost Saint. These days efforts are made to use the Irish language, especially in Ireland as this week is The week of St. Patrick's day.

Customarily, on this day, people either wear green clothing or wear shamrocks. St. Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the Irish pagan.

The colour has been associated with Ireland since at least the 1640s. It has been associated when the green harp flag

was used by the Irish Catholic Confederation. Green ribbons and shamrocks have been worn on St Patrick's Day since at least the 1680s.

During the 1790s, green had become associated with Irish nationalism, due to its use by the United Irishmen (A republican organisation led mostly by Protestants and with many Catholic members who launched a rebellion in 1798 against British rule.). The phrase "wearing of the green" comes from a song of the same name (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Wearing_of_the_Green), which laments United Irishmen supporters being persecuted for wearing green.

Ever since then, throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, the colour and its association grew in popularity.

The week of Saint Patrick's day in Scotland is celebrated with lot of enthusiasm. Parties and contests are held in various clubs, cafes and other public areas.





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