



Vol. XIII No 4 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* November 2019 Section B

Oor Wullie Bucket Trail charity auctions raise £1.3m

More than 200 sculptures from the Scotland-wide Oor Wullie Bucket Trail have raised more than £1.29m at an auction for three children's charities.

Hand-painted themed sculptures of the cartoon character had been displayed in locations including Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Inverness.

The most paid for a single sculpture was £25,000 for Metal Oor Wullie, an intricate metal-work design.

The final auction took place on Friday at Glasgow's Kelvingrove Art Gallery.

It broke the record for the week's auctions, raising a total of £419,500 for the Glasgow Children's

Hospital Charity, and broke through the £1m mark for the total raised across the week.

The star of the night was Metal Oor Wullie, designed by Jason Patterson, which started a bidding war and ended in a winning bid of £25,000.

Other big earners were Buzzin' designed by Bronwyn Gilgallon which fetched £16,000 and Oor Teacake which attracted a winning bid of £15,000.

One of the biggest cheers was for Scouts

Scotland, who managed to win back their Scout Oor Wullie after a crowdfunding campaign raised cash to bid on the statue.

Earlier in the week, the Dundee auction raised



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GLASGOW, SCOTLAND

Glasgow City Chambers' Staircase

The ornate structure is part of a building boasting more marble than the Vatican.

With thanks to Atlas Obscura! Subscribe for free!



Many people in Glasgow, Scotland, pass the impressive City Chambers building every day with no idea of the magnificent opulence awaiting inside.

Step inside the stately structure, and you'll realize the phrase "more marble than the Vatican" is no exaggeration. The Scottish building has even been used as a stand-in for the Vatican in films.

The City Chambers also boast Western Europe's largest marble staircase. The three ornate levels were built using Carrara marble imported from Italy.

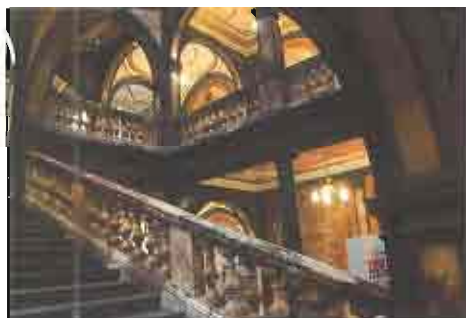
Glasgow's City Chambers were designed by William Young, who won the bid amid a competition between 125 entries. The building was completed in 1888 and opened by Queen Victoria.

Know Before You Go

The City Chambers are not typically open to the public, but they have free 45-minute tours twice a day at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Tours are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and can fit groups of up to 25 people.

With thanks to *Atlas Obscura!*



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.



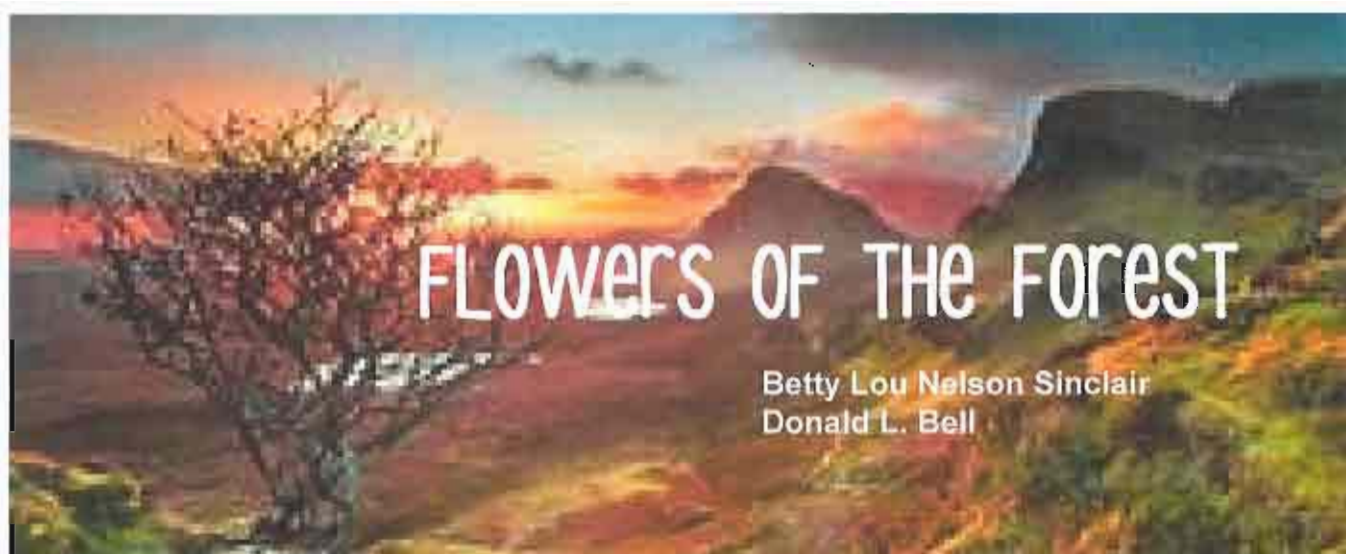
"O'n D'thainig thu."

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 | |





Betty Lou Nelson Sinclair, 88, of Hoover, Alabama, passed away Sunday, September 22, 2019.

She is survived by 3 daughters: Diane (Larry) Stewart, Argo, AL; Kathy (Karl) Geesey, Mt Juliet, TN; and Janet (Mike) Hindman, Jacksonville, AL; 6 adoring grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Born in Chisago County, Minnesota, the child of Swedish immigrant parents, Betty married her Air Force sweetheart, spending their early years of marriage in his native Texas.

After moving to Birmingham they enjoyed 53 years of marriage before his death. Betty lived a wonderful life being homemaker to her daughters. She generously shared her Swedish heritage and passion for music, art, and needle work with others.

She was a member of the Clan Sinclair and The Kingdome of Raknar.

In order for there to be time for the family to gather, visitation with the family will be in the chapel of Bluff Park United Methodist Church, Hoover, Alabama, on Saturday, October 26, with the Memorial Service to follow at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Salvation Army in her memory.

Donald L. Bell was born in Toledo, Ohio, on May 17, 1925 the son of Lloyd and Sarah (Burrell)

Bell. He died on March 11, 2019 at the age of 93.

Don married Alice Ingwersen in Toledo, Ohio, on October 25, 1947 and they had three children, David, Barbara, and Richard.

Alice died in 1995, and Don later married Geraldine Ferguson on May 2, 1998.

Don was a member of the U.S. Naval Reserve for 17 years and served on active duty during WWII and the Korean War.

He was a former member of Court Street United Methodist Church and member of First Presbyterian Church in Flint.

Don was a Registered Professional Engineer in the State of Ohio and a member of the Society of Automotive Engineers for over 50 years.

He was active in the Masonic Fraternity serving as Master of Grand Blanc Lodge #571 F & AM, High Priest of Washington Chapter #15 RAM, Master of Flint Council #56 RSM, Commander of Genesee Valley Commandery #15, Governor of Flint York Rite College #5, Knight of the Purple Cross of the Sovereign College of North America, Member of Priory #22 Knights of the York Cross of Honor, Member of St. Martin Conclave Knights of the Red Cross of Constantine, and a member of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite.

Don was very active in Boy Scouts. He was a scout in Toledo, Ohio, a Scoutmaster of Troop 238 B.S.A in Grand Blanc, and he also served as Camping chairman of the Tall Pine Council Arrowhead District. His hobby was family genealogy, and he pub-

Continued on page 29

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

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Join Clan Gregor today! www.clangregor.org

The first ever university-level lectureship in Gaelic Studies in America has been launched

The Scottish Gaelic Foundation of America is starting the lectureship at the University of North Carolina (UNC), with funding coming from Scottish Heritage USA.

Rev Dr Douglas Kelly, President of Scottish Heritage USA, said: "The Carolinas were home to the largest Gaelic-speaking communities outside of Scotland for generations and people of Highland ancestry still make up a large segment of the region's population.

"This is an ideal time to foster scholarship about the Gaelic legacy of the Carolinas and North America as a whole in the academy.

"This donation from SHUSA fulfills its commitment to serving the Scottish-American community by ensuring the recognition of this important cultural legacy."

He added: "I was keenly aware of my Scottish Highland heritage when I was a student at UNC and had always wanted to see Gaelic taught there.

"Now, I may live to see that happen."

Dr Charles MacQuarrie, President of Urras Gàidhlig nan Stàitean Aonaichte/GaelicUSA, said: "We thank SHUSA for their commitment to enabling the study of Scottish Gaelic language and culture in the United States.

"We agree with Rev Dr Kelly that UNC is the

ideal place to house such a lectureship, and hope now to be successful in justifying and funding an endowed Chair of Scottish Gaelic at UNC."

Dr Mary Floyd-Wilson, the new head of the Department of English and Comparative Literature, said: "We are enthusiastic about bringing a scholar and teacher to the department who can expand our

knowledge of Scottish Gaelic Studies and who inspires students to pursue their own connections with this literary history.

"The funding of the Visiting Lectureship is a major step towards our ultimate goal of endowing a full Chair in Scottish Gaelic Studies.

"It will enable us to build confidence in our initiative with the broader community, bridging faculty and administration at the university level with the public.

"In recognition of the vital support given by Scottish Heritage USA, the Visiting Lectureship will have the official title, "the SHUSA Visiting

Lectureship in Scottish Gaelic Studies at UNC."

Professor Robert Dunbar, Chair of Celtic at the University of Edinburgh, has greeted the move, saying: "We are greatly encouraged to see that students at North Carolina will be able to connect with an important and sadly neglected part of the heritage of the state and, indeed, of North America in general,

Continued on page 9



Tales and Tunes of the Scottish Highland being played at the University of North Carolina.



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.

Gaelic Studies at UNC, *con't from page 7* —

and that desperately-needed research on the very rich legacy of new world Gaels will be facilitated.”

Professor Thomas Owen Clancy, Chair of Celtic at the University of Glasgow, added: “This is fantastic and unlooked for news, a real ray of hope.

“At a time when academic posts are shrinking in Celtic Studies generally on both sides of the Atlantic, this investment in Gaelic in UNC will make a real difference and Chapel Hill is most certainly the right place to host this.”

Dr. Natasha Sumner, Assistant Professor of Celtic Languages and Literatures at Harvard University, said: “Scottish Gaelic, a modern Celtic language closely related to Irish and Manx, has a nearly three century-long history on this continent.

“The field of North American Gaelic Studies has been strengthening since the late Harvard professor, Charles Dunn’s pioneering work with the Canadian Gaelic-speaking community in the twentieth century.

“However, Gaels’ cultural heritage continues to be understudied, particularly in the United States. That a Visiting Lectureship is to be established at the University of North Carolina—the state in which the first American Gaelic book was published in the eighteenth century—is welcome news indeed.”

The Lectureship position will be advertised this month and the candidate will be chosen in early 2018.

The lectureship will consist of five courses exploring literature, identity, and folklore using Gaelic texts (in English translation), explored from a Scottish Highland perspective.

The courses will incorporate material inclusive of history and culture, ancient and modern, and will relate to both Scotland and the North American diaspora.

Endowing a chair in Scottish Gaelic Studies at UNC will cost approximately \$2.5 million.



Nellie Graham Lowry honored by The Clan Graham Society

Richard Graham, Chieftain of The Clan Graham Society, wrote, “Nellie Lowry’s contributions to the Clan Graham Society have been so significant that we would not have grown so much in the last three decades without her support!

Thirty years and more is as long as she was our genealogist. She was the person we relied upon to answer the many questions our members have had about their backgrounds.

So many members are so very interested in their genealogy.

That’s why I say that she promoted membership in The Clan Graham Society - because members knew we had a genealogist who knew her business.

It wasn’t long ago that our Chief, His Grace the Duke of Montrose, asked me to give Nellie more information for her (our) records about his own family tree. Many have given her their own records and asked her to verify them, too.

Genealogy is so important to so many because of their interest in their roots. Nellie has produced a CD with thousands of Grahams’ genealogy on it as just one example of her many talents.

When I asked our Chief to join our President, David Graham, and myself to sign a diploma of grati-

Continued on page 11



LOVE TARTAN...?

The Scottish Tartans Authority is a registered charity based in Scotland and we are the only organisation dedicated to the preservation, promotion and protection of tartan. We would love you to join us as a member and support our worthy cause...



Membership directly contributes to ensuring that Scotland's iconic cloth is maintained for future generations of Scots, both home and abroad. Exclusive benefits include a regular newsletter, access to our Tartan and Clan experts as well as lots more.

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For more information & to become a member
please visit

www.tartansauthority.com

Or contact us at

admin@tartansauthority.com

Nellie Lowry, *continued from page 9* —————

tude for Nellie's work for our Clan, he responded immediately and "with pleasure."

Nellie has been a proponent of DNA as an assistance and verification in genealogical research and records. She has recommended the best way to go about this and is aware of the personal information involved and also the need for privacy.

I remember, at the turn of this century, when we wanted to do some things significant as a reminder and celebration of the new millenium.

A large contingent of over one hundred Grahams joined Kate and me on a visit and AGM in Scotland, but this wasn't enough. So, most of our officers did something significant and Nellie was among them.

I asked her to produce a record of the beginnings of the Grahams. Of course, she did produce a very interesting history that is available to us now and which shows two strong lines of Graham background and beginnings which fascinates everyone.

That's Nellie for you - always ready to give us the benefit of her knowledge and expertise in genealogy.



Clan MacCallum/Malcolm at the Chicago Scottish Festival & Highland Games last June

(l-r) Neil McCallum, Richard Hogue, George Wilson, Marlene Hogue, Laurence Pavlik, Maddie, Jenny Goudreault, James McCallum, Jake, Mark Goudreault, Kristin and Cody Fara - members of the Clan MacCallum/Malcolm at the Chicago Scottish Festival and Highland Games.

We had a full crew of members and visitors to add to our triumphant Clan march, with a shout of "In Ardua Tendit" as we passed the review.

Jim McCallum and Jenny Goudreault, Conveners for Clan MacCallum/Malcolm.



Nellie and John - Tom and I just whooped and hollered to see Nellie so highly honored by her beloved Clan Graham!

Congratulations!

Thank you both for being our dear friends for such a very long time.

I miss coming out to the Seaside Games...and, of course, I miss my "fairy cottage" that was so much fun.

Most of all, I miss visiting with you all and being with you for a little while.

Real friends are so rare and precious...and I consider you both to be very real friends.

Beth



The Clan Skene

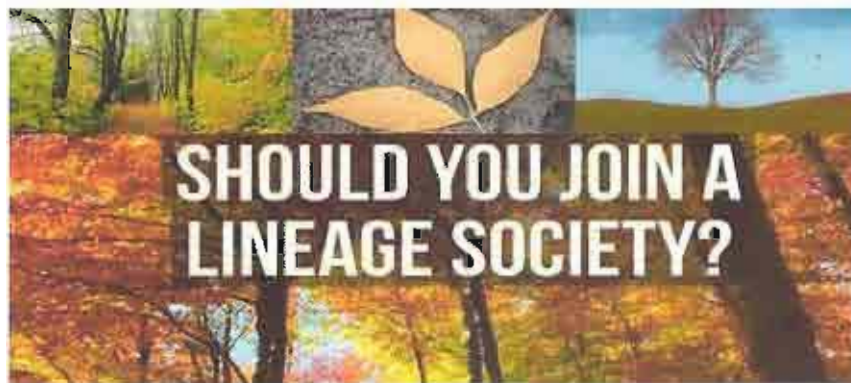
Association, Inc.



The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and Septs Carison, Carney/Carnie, Curriehill, Dyas, Dyce, Dyer, Hall, Halyard/Hallyard, MacGaillard, Rennie & Skains

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





Bryan L. Mulcahy,
MLS

Hereditary and lineage societies are organizations created to honor a specific heritage or event. Members of lineage societies must prove their descent of that heritage or event according to approved genealogical proof standards.

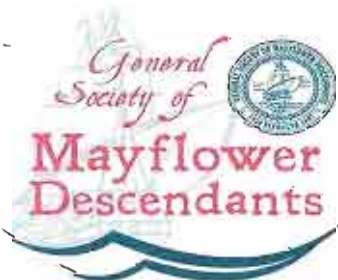
Membership in genealogical and historical hereditary and/or lineage societies is based on the researcher documenting an ancestor's descent from veterans of various wars, from pioneers, from specific trades, or other related organizations. Many national lineage societies have state chapters. Some examples of notable societies include the following:

1. Daughters of 1812
2. Daughters of the
American Revolution
3. Descendants of the Signers
of the Declaration of Independence
4. Founders and Patriots of America
5. Jamestown Society
6. Mayflower Society
7. Sons of Confederate Veterans
8. Sons of the American Revolution
9. Sons of Union Veterans
of the Civil War
10. United Confederate Veterans
11. United Daughters of the Confederacy

Hereditary and lineage societies require a detailed application process for membership.

The application form submitted by prospective applicants must be sufficiently documented to prove beyond any doubt the accuracy of the lineage connection. The application must contain detailed information, including specific source citations, and relevant copies taken from print, filmed, and digitized sources documenting the connection between the ancestor and event being used to apply for membership. This information must demonstrate that the ancestor whose presence or action was legitimate enough to qualify descendants for membership.

Most of the required information on applications contains significant amounts of genealogical and historical data. For genealogists and historians this could be very useful for research. While some societies restrict access to these records to approved society members only, a growing number are open to assisting researchers in general. Their obvious hope is that, by doing so, it will encourage more people, especially the younger generation, to become active in their organizations.



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



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 Elliots of known Scottish descent.

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

www.elliotclan.com

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



MISSING McPERSON

Can you help?

Looking for info on **WILLIAM HENDLEY** of Scotland (b. 1759). - lived first in Virginia later settling in Georgia. Please contact <lizziej47@gmail.com>

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Register now for hotels at NGS Family History Conference

Discounted hotel rooms are rapidly selling out for the National Genealogical Society's forty-second annual Family History Conference, Echoes of Our Ancestors. Lock in your reduced rate by reserving your accommodations today.

The conference will be held 20-23 May 2020 at the Salt Palace Convention Center (SPCC), 100 S. West Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah. It will feature more than 150 genealogy lectures on a wide variety of topics including DNA, ethnic sources, historical migrations, immigration, research techniques, specialized collections at the Family History Library, and more.

Continued on page 19

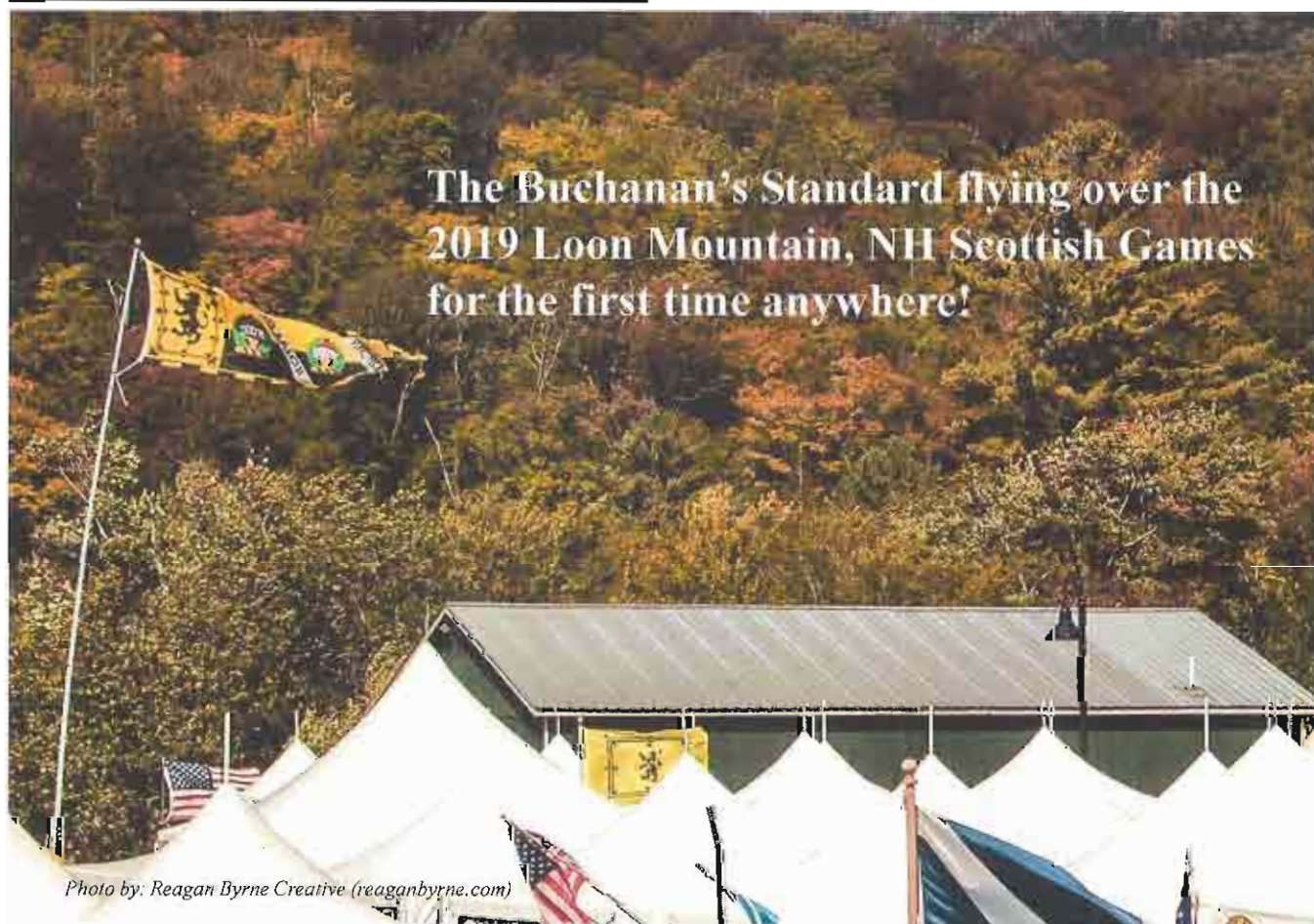


Photo by: Reagan Byrne Creative (reaganbyrne.com)

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 /
Forister / Forester / Forister / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families

Queen's local church in Edinburgh back to its best as coat of arms restored

With thanks to The American College of Heraldry: <www.americancollegeofheraldry.org>

Painstaking work to restore a 300-year-old royal coat of arms on the Queen's local church in Edinburgh has been completed.

Canongate Kirk was surrounded by scaffolding when the Queen was welcomed by Reverend Neil Gardner during her annual stay at the Palace of Holyroodhouse in June.

She was pictured pointing up at the 17th century building as it underwent renovation, including the repainting of the coat of arms.

The Queen inquired about the works on her visit to the church in June.

The intricate work, carried out by Nevin of Edinburgh painters and decorators, was required to follow standards set by the Court of the Lord Lyon, which regulates heraldry in Scotland and involved the delicate application of gold leaf.

Mr. Gardner, who has been minister at the church for 13 years, said: "We've had work done to the roof, the walls and the windows.

"We've kept going every Sunday – we had to close occasionally but we've otherwise been in business all the way through.

"With roof works and things, there's not an awful lot to show for it but at least, if we have a repainted coat of arms, it will look bright and fresh."

The kirk was surrounded by scaffolding until recently

Canongate Kirk was built at the behest of King James VII (and II of England), who ordered that money left at the disposal of the Crown by a merchant named Thomas Moodie should be used to construct the new church.

Moodie was recognised with his own coat of arms and inscription but the same could not be said for the king himself – by the time it was completed in 1691 he had lost the throne and was living in exile.

Instead the emblem of Nassau was placed in the



centre of the royal coat of arms to honour his successor William III.

The kirk's royal links continue to the present day, with a Christmas tree gifted to parishioners from Balmoral every year.

In 2011, Zara Phillips married Mike Tindall at the church.



This article originally appeared 19 August 2019 in the Dunfermline Press and Western Fife Advertiser <https://www.dunfermlinepress.com/news/national-news/17846792.queens-local-church-edinburgh-back-best-coat-arms-restored/> Photos credit Jane Barlow/PA

MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.

of Clan Macfie



Ceud Mile Failte! 100,000 Welcomes!

Annual General Meeting held each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.
You are always welcome to attend.

President: Thomas P. McDuffee
tpmijm@aol.com

Treasurer: David M. McDuffie
dnmcduffie@gmail.com

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



2019 Ramsay Piping Trophy Awarded

Kevin Darmadi, a 17-year-old from Houston, Texas, was awarded the Ramsay Piping Trophy for the best Grade 1 Piper of the Day at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 13th.

David Ramsey and Dick McGraw presented Kevin with the award.

Kevin has been piping for 8 years. He started piping through his school, St. Thomas Episcopal, in Houston. The school has a Scottish Arts Program where one can learn the pipes or drums starting in 4th grade.

"When I started," he said, "I was determined to get to the top band, the 'A' band. This was the band that competed at the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow. I've now had the opportunity of competing at the World Championships 4 times. I'm going into my senior year of high school at St. Thomas Episcopal, but in college I plan on majoring in political science because I want to become a lawyer."

Kevin's piping instructors are Mike



Melody Dawn Adams, photography

Cusack, Ian K. MacDonald, Lyric Todkill, and Nick Hudson.

With many thanks to the newsletter of the Clan Ramsay, International, Inc., *The Ramsay Report*. Visit www.clanramsay.org for more information about the Clan Ramsay.

Don't forget, the Clan Ramsay 2019 AGM will be held at the upcoming Stone Mountain Highland Games, October 18 - 20 in Stone Mountain, GA. Visit www.smhg.org for info.

NGS Hotels, *continued from page 15*

NGS offers attendees a choice of several hotels with discounted rates. All are convenient to the convention center. The Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown is located adjacent to the convention center and the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel is only half a block away. Only a few rooms remain available at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel. The NGS room block in official conference hotel, the Hilton Salt Lake City Center, is currently sold out.

If you plan to register and attend the conference, we recommend that you make your reservations now. The hotels are offering the NGS rate three days before and three days after the conference, based on availability, so participants can do research or go sightseeing in the area. Check the hotels' websites for cancellation rules and for additional amenities.

You can find full details and links for discounted, reservations on the NGS conference website. Check back often for updates on hotel availability.

Set in the beautiful Wasatch mountain range, Salt Lake City is a sophisticated city with a modern convention center and many great choices for hotels, restaurants, and shops. For family historians, it offers some of the best genealogical research resources in the United States. To learn about research facilities in the area, refer to the conference's Announcement Brochure on the NGS conference website.

The four-day NGS 2020 Family History Conference promises to be a great opportunity for family historians to advance their research, hone their skills, and network with fellow genealogists. Be sure to reserve your hotel accommodations as soon as possible.



Organized July 1975
The first worldwide
Clan Graham organization



CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY

Ne Oublie • "Do Not Forget" to join us!

www.clangrahamsociety.org
www.facebook.com/ClanGrahamSociety



Clan Skene needs commissioners, officers, editor - No monetary pay, but lots of fun!

Clan Skene's Annual general Meeting will be held at the Skene tent at the Stone Mountain Highland games at 1 PM on Saturday 19 October 2019.

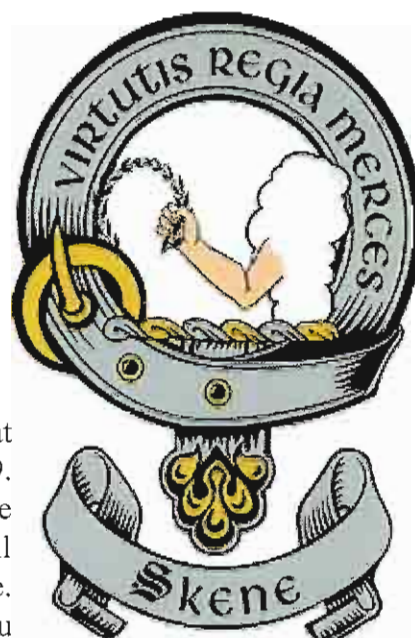
An election of officers for a two year period will take place. Anyone wishing to hold a position (i.e. run for election) please contact Al (ALSRX@windstream.net) or Ralph (rbcomp@att.net) as soon as possible.

. We cannot express enough that this is your association and that you need to get involved. Not everyone wants to be an officer but how about sharing some ideas.

We are also in need of Commissioners to convene games at various locations throughout the country. All commissioners provide their own equipment and the associated cost of the games. Some equipment is available from our Quartermaster at no cost.

Most of the current commissioners convene several games each year. It is a most enjoyable experience.

Clan Skene is also searching for a newsletter



editor. Training will be provided. The job requires about 15 hours work every three months. 80% of the members receive by email while 20% require paper copies. Requirements include computer, internet, printer (two sided printing preferred but not mandatory) and a publishing program.

Most input provided by officers and members, so there is very little research required.

The current editor will complete the December 2019 issue. If no one volunteers the newsletter will go into hibernation until one is found.



Congratulations to Hannah Skene (Skene of Halyards) and Louit Thakuria on the birth of their twin sons, Hugo Felix Moncrieff Thakuria and Maxwell Tomas Skene Thakuria, on 12th of June 2019.

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



Chief Steven
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,
MaComie, Macomle, 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



Classic Scottish Soups cooking class! November 3. You're invited.

You're invited on November 3rd to a "Hands on Cooking Class - Classic Scottish Soups." *Aprons Cooking School*, 3521 Thomasville Road, Tallahassee, Florida.

The cost is \$45 per person. Space is limited to 12 seats. Signup will be available by calling 893-3480 or by dropping by the Publix Events Desk in Tallahassee. There is no online registration for this private class for St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee members. The event will start 1 p.m.



Clan Paisley Society plans festivities at the 2019 Charleston Games

Clan Paisley (USA) will be welcoming their Chief; The Much Hon Duncan Paisley of Westerlea and his wife Lady Jane, John Paisley, Chairman and Sandy Paisley from Scotland to the Charleston Highland Games the first weekend in November.

The North Carolina Branch will have a big presence during the weekend and members of other branches including West Coast Representative Bill Paisley, Tom Paisley representing Canada and the USA Commissioner Martha Pasley Milam Brown will join the festivities.

In the evening the Clan will come together for dinner. On Sunday all Paisleys will join in the service of blessing and the Kirkin' o the Tartan at First Scots Presbyterian Church, which will be followed by luncheon hosted by the Westerleas on Sullivan's Isle.



Shetland has enjoyed a "woolly invasion" as people from all



over the world have flocked to the island to celebrate the 10th year of Shetland's Wool Week.





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 - Außen - 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!

Rare 1,200-year-old Pictish stone found near Dingwall, Scotland

Archaeologists said the find is of national importance because it is one of only about 50 complete Pictish cross-slabs known to exist.

Decorated with a number of symbols, the stone was uncovered at an early Christian church site near Dingwall.

It was used as a grave marker in the 1790s and discovered hidden in vegetation by Anne MacInnes of North of Scotland Archaeological Society.

The Picts created cross-slabs - intricately decorated standing stones - and also constructed impressive hill forts to defend themselves against rival tribes and invaders.

They battled against the Romans, Angles and the Vikings.

Archaeologists believe the newly-found stone would have originally measured more than two metres (6ft) tall. Just over a metre of it survives.

It is decorated with a number of Pictish designs including several mythical beasts, oxen, an animal headed warrior with sword and shield, and symbols called a double disc and a z rod.

Experts said the carvings appeared to have more in common with Pictish stones found in Perthshire than those previously found in Easter Ross.

Details of the carvings on the reverse side have still to be revealed by specialists, but archaeologists said based on examples from similar stones they are likely to include a large ornate Christian

cross.

Ms MacInnes was carrying out a survey of the church site when she found the stone.

She said "I was clearing vegetation when I spotted the carving. I really couldn't believe what I was seeing."

Highland Council and Historic Environment Scotland archaeologists have since examined the stone. On Thursday, it was carefully removed from the site by specialist conservators.

It will now be professionally conserved with

a view to eventually putting it on permanent public display at a Highlands museum or other suitable venue.

John Borland, of Historic Environment Scotland and president of the Pictish Arts Society, said: "The discovery of the top half of

a large cross slab with Pictish symbols is of national importance.

"The find spot - an early Christian site in Easter Ross - is a new location for such sculpture so adds significant information to our knowledge of the Pictish church and its distribution,

"This new discovery will continue to stimulate debate and new research."

Highland Council archaeologist Kirsty Cameron said it was a "once-in-a-lifetime find".

She added: "All credit goes to the local archaeologists for immediately recognising the importance of the stone and putting plans in place for securing its future."



The stone and an illustration of carvings on one side of it



OH, CANADA!



<https://electriccanadian.com>



Historic Scottish battlefield is up for sale for £70,000

An historic battlefield, Carbisdale, which saw the final defeat of one of Scotland's greatest military commanders has gone up for sale.

History enthusiasts are being offered the chance to snap up Carbisdale battlefield near Bonar Bridge in Sutherland for offers over £70,000.

The battle of Carbisdale took place near the village of Culrain.

The site is where, in 1650, James Graham, the 1st Marquis of Montrose, fought his last battle in support of the Royalist cause.

The 17th century military genius, poet and patriotic Scot who became known as the Great Montrose had led his outnumbered army to six successive victories against the Covenanters in the space of a year.

His tactical brilliance, leadership and sheer daring helped him to consistently beat the odds — 300 years on, Field Marshal Montgomery would quote his line about daring 'to win or lose it all' to inspire the troops on the eve of D-Day.

The site where he met his defeat comprises 53 acres of heather moor, pine woodland and open burns.

The battlefield, one hour's drive from Inverness, is approached by a private lane and sits in an elevated position with views to the Kyle of Sutherland.

Estate agents Bell Ingram, who are marketing the land, say almost half of it is designated as native woodland but a spot could be found at the site to build a family home, subject to planning approval.

The nearest railway station is a 10 minute walk from the battlefield while the nearest pub is a 25-minute walk or 10 minute cycle ride away.

Joanne Stennett, from Bell Ingram, said: "This is a unique opportunity to own your piece of Scot-

tish history in the form of Carbisdale Battlefield.

"Almost half the ground is designated as Native Woodland by the Forestry Commission Scotland, and there is an opportunity to improve and extend the native species across the whole area to create a significant block of eco-friendly land.

"Alternatively, a mix of amenity and commercial woodland is also possible with the benefit of current government funding for tree planting.

"No application has yet been made for a dwelling house, but a site could be found, subject to necessary planning consents, for the sensitive development of a family house in keeping with the beautiful surroundings."

Following a defeat at Philiphaugh in 1645, Montrose fled abroad only to be reappointed Lord-Lieutenant of Scotland by Charles II and return to Scotland in 1650.

In March 1650 he landed in Orkney then moved south to try to raise an army of Highlanders.

However, on April 27, 1650, his small force was defeated at the Battle of Carbisdale.

The battle was a decisive victory for the Covenanter forces against Montrose, with his forces routed almost without firing a shot.

Montrose himself escaped the field but he was handed over to the Covenanters a few days later and taken to Edinburgh to hear his sentence, then hung, drawn and quartered on May 21, 1650.

Carbisdale also marks the end of the internal struggles within Scotland as part of the Wars of the Three Kingdoms. Their subsequent agreement with Charles II meant the Covenanters came into open conflict with Oliver Cromwell and the Protectorate instead, rather than Royalist supporters in their own lands.



1st Marquis of Montrose

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Bell Family Convention June 16, 2019

Gretna, Scotland



From right to left: Dr. Thomas Bell; Ian McClumpha; William Bell III; Katja Bell; Colonel William Bell; Dr. James Bell; David W. Bell; Elizabeth Roads, Snawdoun Herald of Arms in Ordinary of the Court of the Lord Lyon; Joseph L. Bell; mannikin of William Redcloak Bell; Robert Bell; Christine Bell; Kathy Bell; Susan Bell; Carina Bell Bastlund Woolthead. (Picture submitted by Carina Bell Bastlund Woolthead)

The Bell Family Convention held in June 2019 in Gretna, Scotland was supposed to lay this struggle and confusion to rest. The Convention was attended by 12 Bells with another 4 Bells voting remotely. Unfortunately, this number of participants did not

demonstrate enough interest to the Lord Lyon to go forward with a Commander of the Bell name. This is a setback, but now we have three years to better prepare for success.

With thanks to *The Clan of the Bells*, publication.

Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 5*

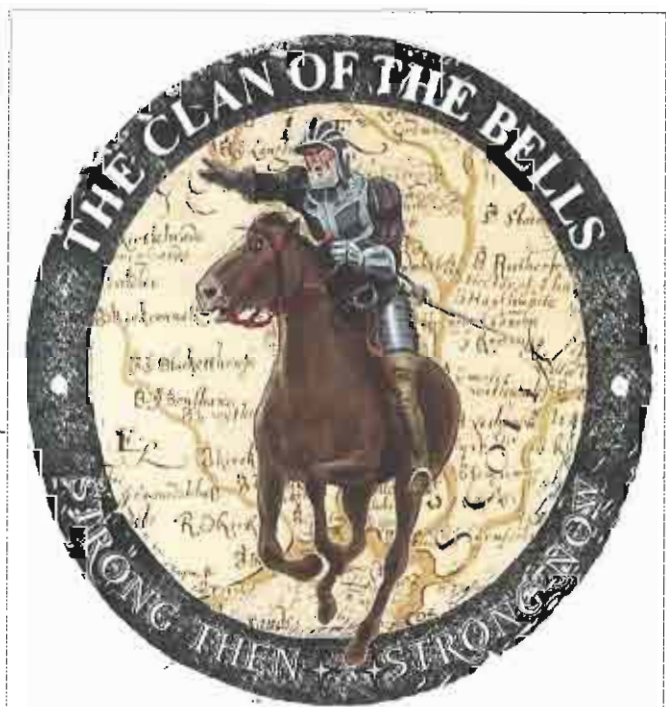
lished several books. Don was a member of the Flint Genealogical Society. He was also a volunteer at the Flint Public Library for 14 years.

He was a long time member of the The Clan of the Bells.

Don was a loving father, step-father, grandfather, step-grandfather, great grandfather, step-great grandfather, uncle, cousin, and friend to all. He always put family and friends first and foremost.

There is never any charge for
Flowers of the Forest

information in
Beth's Newfangled Family Tree.
Send your loved ones information
anytime, to <bethscribble@aol.com>



The Ancestral Home
of the
Clan Armstrong



Gilnockie Tower

The 16th Century
Ancestral Home
of the Clan Armstrong



The Ancestral Home
of the
Clan Armstrong



Instagram:
gilnockietowerreivercentre



Gilnockie Tower is on the A7 Edinburgh to Carlisle route, details on our website.:

www.gilnockietower.co.uk

All Border Reiver Families made more than welcome at our tower.

We are open 10.00 AM until 4.00 PM 7 days 1st April to end October 2019. We are open 11.00 AM until 3.00 PM daily end October 2019 until end March 2020.

Johnnie Armstrong of Gilnockie Coffee Bar now open.

Please check our website for unforeseen changes to our opening times. : www.gilnockietower.co.uk

Our E-store now open on
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£239,000 for the Archie Foundation. Archie Highland and Archie Grampian's auction brought in £316,700. Thursday's event in the capital totalled £318,000 for the Edinburgh Children's Hospital Charity.

Full of Beans creator Suzanne Scott, from Dundee, who designed three other bucket trail sculptures, said that "feeling overwhelmed" at the amount raised was an understatement.

She said: "If my work can make even a tiny difference to someone's life, it means so much."

The family of 99-year-old war veteran Tom Gilzean, who has raised more than £1m for charity were outbid for his Oor Wullie statue.

Tom Gilzean's sculpture went for £13,000 at auction to a mystery buyer.

It follows a crowd fundraiser which raised £7,000 to buy the statue so it could be kept on display in Edinburgh.

But then a local taxi company stepped in to commission another sculpture to be given to the Gilzeans.

This year's bucket trail was the first time the event had been hosted across Scotland.

The 11-week event began in June and encouraged visitors to "bag" as many of the statues as possible with the help of a downloadable map and interactive app.

More than 200 sculptures were displayed, culminating in public "farewell events" where all of the statues were gathered together in the five host cities, ahead of the auctions.



Stranraer Oyster Festival has 'come of age' with big crowds!

A south of Scotland seafood celebration has "come of age" with visitor numbers up an estimated 25% on last year.

More than 17,000 people attended the three-day Stranraer Oyster Festival at the weekend.

Attendances are estimated to have increased by about 25%.

Romano Petrucci, who chairs the town's development trust, said the event had been "bigger and better" in every way.

He said it had been a "phenomenal success" and they had been "overwhelmed" by the positive comments.

"Our wee oyster festival has truly come of age," he said.

"It is amazing to think that in just four years we have taken Stranraer Oyster Festival from a quirky idea to now establishing it as one of the south of Scotland's biggest events.

"And, by doing so, establishing Stranraer as a vibrant destination for people to visit."

An oyster eating competition was part of the seafood celebration

He also confirmed that next year's festival would take place from 11 to 13 September.

Among the highlights this year were the Scottish oyster shucking championship and an oyster eating championship.

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

The Clan Colquhoun International Society

<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>



Contact Tom Hodges:
sijepuis@bellsouth.net

Allied Families and Septs of
Clan Colquhoun are:
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,
MacClintock & MacManus

Clan Blair Society

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

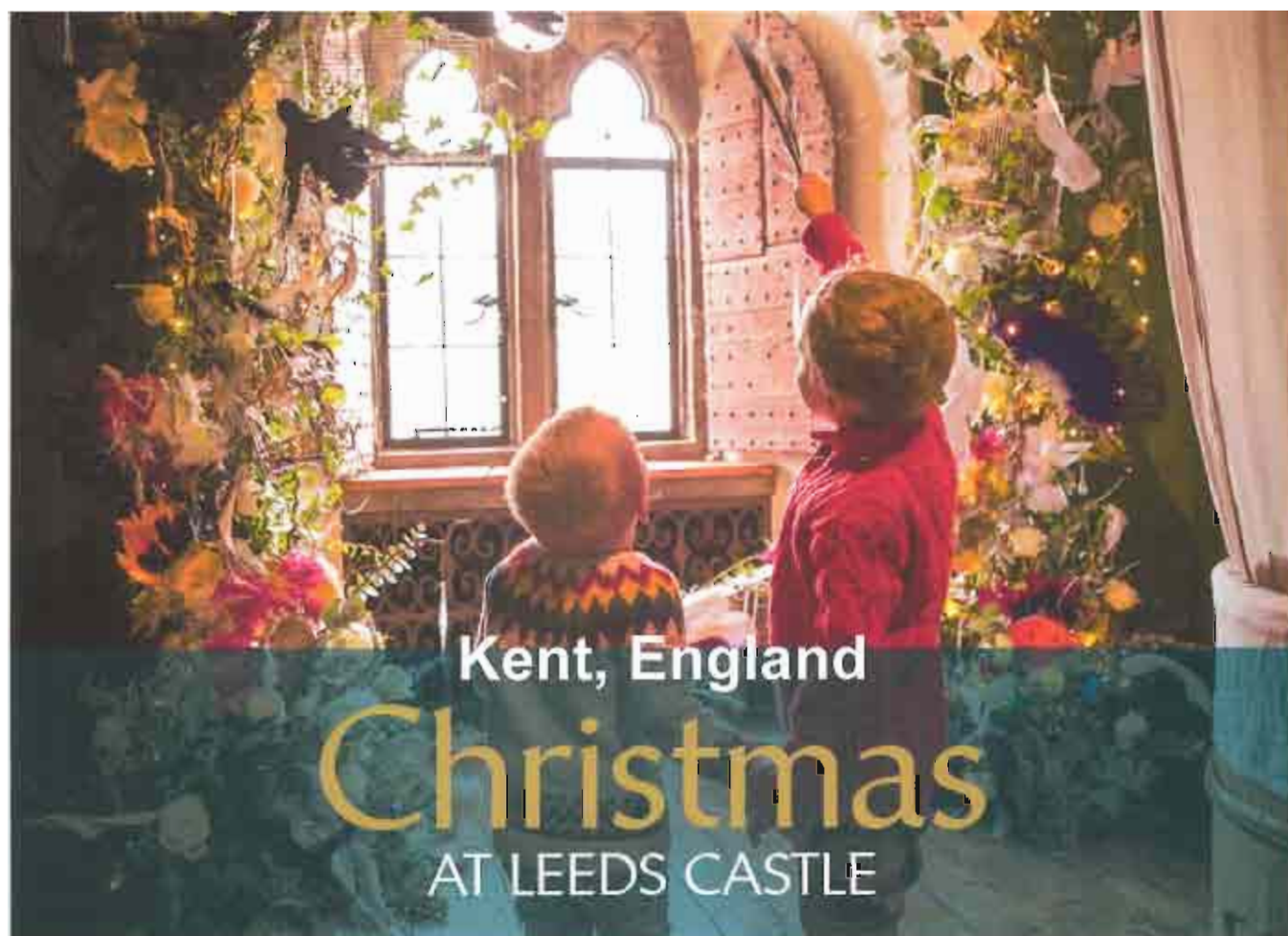


www.clanblair.org

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



Avoid the crowds and find the perfect gift whilst late night shopping in the shop at the main entrance. Sample our range of festive wines and mead. There will be competitions on the night to win fantastic prizes and discount gift vouchers. The first 50 purchasing customers each night will receive a festive goody bag! Parking is free and an admission ticket is not required. During the day the shops are open throughout the festive season.

Late night shopping takes place from 5pm to 8pm.

Included with the price of admission.

Get into the festive spirit by creating handmade wreaths with expert guidance. The RHS Award-winning Castle Floristry Team will help keen amateurs prepare for Christmas with Christmas Wreath Making workshops.

£55 per person including a one day entrance ticket and refreshments.

Workshop runs from 11am to 3pm.

There are multiple dates available for this event: 12th November 2019

Visit the Christmas Market on the lawn overlooking the Castle to discover a splendid array of seasonal gifts, toys, festive decorations, specialist food and drink.

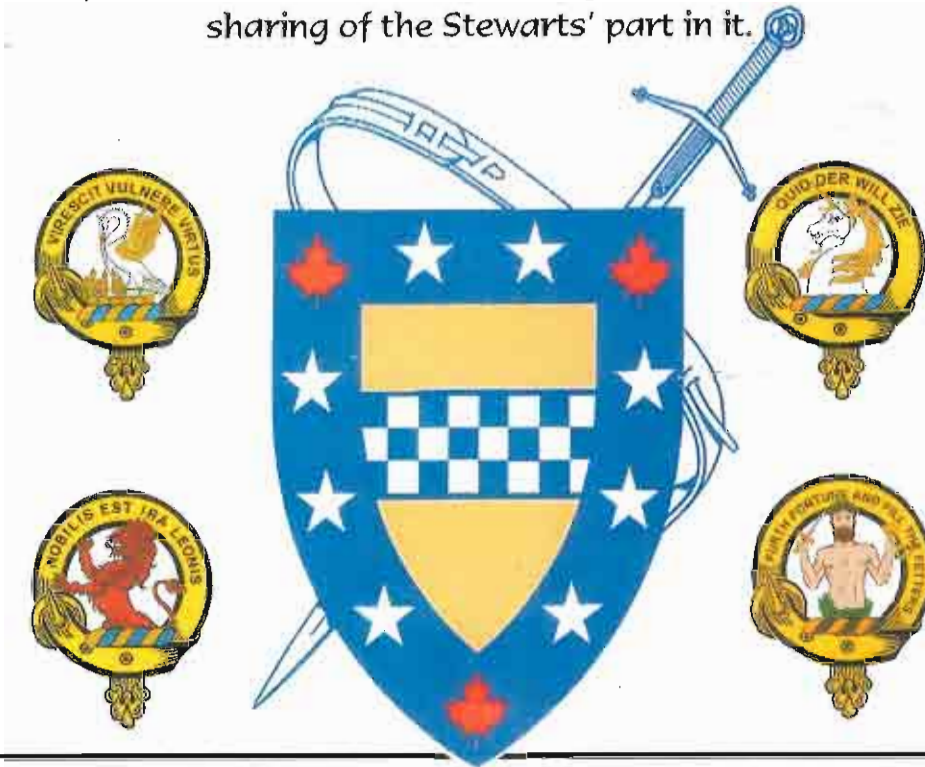
In the centre of the market, visitors can enjoy nostalgic fairground rides on the Victorian carousel or take a leisurely trip on the big wheel for a spectacular view of the Castle, whilst live music performances from the band stand each day will keep everyone entertained.

Included with the price of admission.

Weekends only from 23rd November to 15th December 2019

Clan Stewart Society in America, Inc.

501(c)(3) Not For Profit Organization dedicated to the preservation of Scottish Heritage and History and the sharing of the Stewarts' part in it.



The Stewart dynasty descended from King Robert I's daughter and her husband, Walter the Steward. Despite early unrest and weak government caused by several Stewart kings succeeding as minors, the dynasty flourished for over three centuries.

During this time, Scotland moved forward to become a modern and prosperous nation. Stewart monarchs such as King James IV and VI were Renaissance patrons of artistic, scientific, commercial, religious and political endeavour, sponsoring figures including the poet, Robert Henryson, and humanist, George Buchanan.

Also of significance was the arrival in the mid-sixteenth century of the Reformation movement, bringing about the replacement of Catholic Mary Queen of Scots by her son King James VI.

It was through the Stewart dynasty that the two thrones of England and Scotland - and later the governments - came to be united.

The 'Marriage of the Thistle and the Rose' took place at Stirling Castle in 1503 between King James IV and Princess Margaret Tudor, daughter of King Henry VII of England.

This union of the Scottish and English Royal families eventually led in 1603 to the succession of a Stewart (now with a change of spelling) to the throne of England.

CSSA is represented at approximately 40 Scottish/Celtic events around the country each year. We are always looking for folks with our passion to volunteer to start more.

We also have a presence on the Internet with a website, <clansstewart.org> (official) and a Facebook page listed as *Clan Stewart Society in America* (unofficial).

Though we have maintained our low annual \$25 membership, we are still able to sponsor trophies for dance, drums and pipes and establish scholarships for institutions providing cultural Scottish curriculums and we also sponsor the competition of a record-holding female athlete.

For CSSA membership information: <clansstewart.org> (You may pay your dues at that site, too.)

Jay McClellan's dog art a big hit!

When Jay McClellan's mother died of pancreatic cancer in 2003, he gave up a twelve year career in advertising in Arkansas, sold his belongings and became an artist.

Life had suddenly become too short to do anything he didn't love.

But, when the empty chairs McClellan was painting to symbolize the loss of his mom weren't resonating the way he intended, a professional urged him to paint something that made him full, something that made him happy.

So, he painted his dogs. "And, that's where this dog thing began," he says.

McClellan, 42, received his master's degree from the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and now makes a living painting dogs in the sunny studio of the East Falls home he shares with his wife, his daughter and their dogs: Lucky, a nine-year-old hound mix and Acorn Shaking Ava Belle Blue, a three-year-old Bluetick Coonhound.

Although he has lived in Philly since 2006, Arkansas still runs strong in McClellan who speaks with a pronounced drawl through a bushy auburn beard.

Flecks of acrylic paint cover his shirt and jean apron. He wears a baseball cap featuring his favorite type of dog, a coonhound, instead of his favorite sports team.

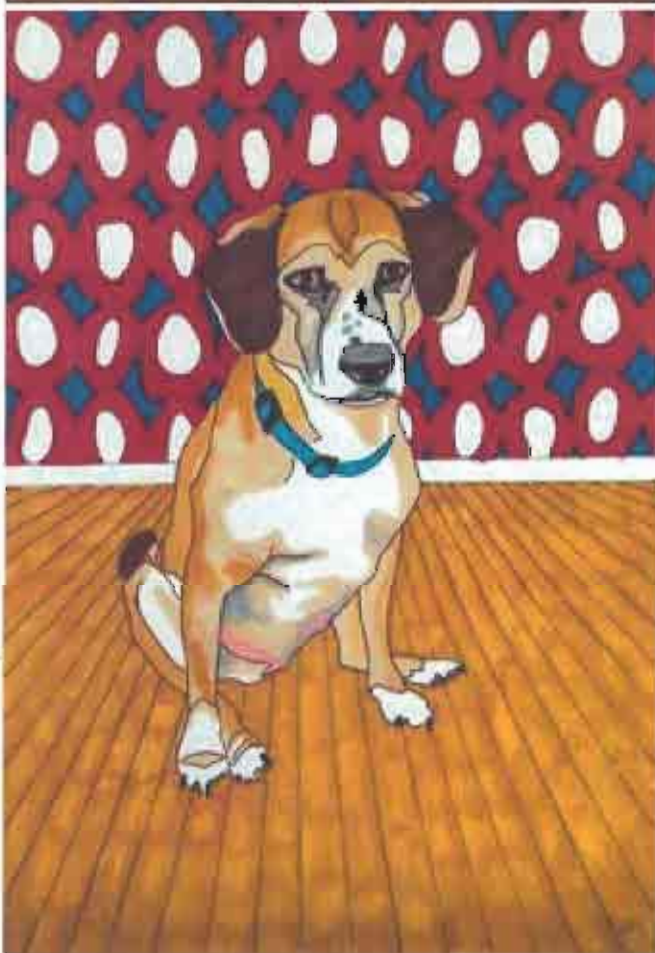
McClellan's typical commission is a 30 x 40 inch pooch portrait for \$2,650. What McClellan really loves is painting on big, 7 foot x 6 foot canvases, often making his furry subjects larger in art than in life.

McClellan was showing his work at a gallery in Stone Harbor, New Jersey, in 2012, when the daughter of the owner of the White Dog Cafe walked in and bought one of his pieces for her father.

Today, more than 20 of his paintings hang in White Dog restaurants.

McClellan likes to play with the dog and meet

Continued on page 37



Clan Home Society, International

The Clan Home Society,
International cordially invites
membership from all HOME
and HUME and allied families.

All Clans: The Clan Home Air Force invites members
from all clans. In fact, the first member from a clan
becomes their own Squadron Commander.

The Clan Home Air Force flies squadrons of Stealth
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JOIN NOW! T-Shirts with membership.
Write the president, below, for details.



Rodney Green, president

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205-368-5286



<lawnmower391@gmail.com>



the owner. He'll then create three or four sketches, stretch his own canvas and get to work with acrylic paints. He prefers to paint dogs lollygagging instead of in action.

"If you live with a dog and you have a dog, there's so much just relaxing, laying around," he said. "I really like to capture that home life part of the dog."

Last February, McClellan was asked to do a show at Urban Outfitters' Navy Yard headquarters. While there, he was contracted by Urban's sister brand, Anthropologie, to do a line of doggy dishware called *Bone Appetit*, which was released this year.

McClellan is proud of that line and of his work, but he's even prouder of his own dogs. He still gets teary talking about Tip and Honey, the first dogs he owned as a young man. The dogs that helped him through his mother's death. The dogs that helped him find his gift. The dogs he loved so much, that when they died, he wrapped their bodies in paintings he did of them and buried them in the back yard. "I know the pain and that connection of loving and losing a dog," he said.

Sometimes McClellan faces an uphill battle in the art community, where painting dogs is rarely likened to being the next Picasso. That's all right with him. "There's a part of me that would like to be considered in that academic type world, but a larger part of me just likes the idea of a relationship between man and dog or woman and dog and how they fit into the family unit," he said. "I like the power of the dog as a pet and then the power of art therapy

and how the two play together."

With many thanks to *Think On*, the publication of the Clan MacLellan. For membership information, contact Kathy Stoess Kessinger, at clan-<president@clanmaclellan.net>.

Also, thanks to Jay McClellan Studio (Currently accepting commissions). <jay.mcclellan@gmail.com> or <www.jaymcclellan.com>



About The Clan Carruthers Society International

The Clan Carruthers Society International (CCSI) was founded in January 2017 and is officially recognised by the Chief of Carruthers as representing the worldwide Carruthers family.

It is non-commercial, apolitical and non-partisan and is open to any member of the international Carruthers family and derivatives of that name.

The Society is based in the United Kingdom, but is represented by an international Executive Council.

Clan Carruthers | URL: <https://wp.me/p97p4Q-Qd>





It has been a busy summer exploring more of Scotland. We purchased a wee caravan camper, and spent a few nights exploring a bit further along the coast. Here is the view from our campsite at John O' Groats.



More hiking along the north coast.



With many thanks to: **Dr. Pete Hylton, Ed.D.**
Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy
Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology
Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
Fulbright Scholar



Here we are with our vintage MG racecar and our 1950s costumes at vintage car shows at John O' Groats, Caithness and Kirkwall, Orkney.



In Orkney there were some other interesting vehicles: Mini Marcos, Hillman Imp, a pair of 3 wheel Morgans

Continued on page 39

and a fleet of mini (old and new), over 230 tractors plus motorcycles. Then there was a military display to recognize the 80th anniversary of Hatston Aerodrome. Also an old threshing machine and some smaller engines of various makes. Huge show.



At Burghead, along the north Moray coast, we found the remnants of a Pictish fort from about 400 AD. In the photo you can pick out where the ramparts are now grass covered mounds, and the flat area was the open ground contained by the protective walls.



Next is the Burghead Well, which dates from the Dark Ages. It is cut right into the rock. There is a flight of 20 steps leading to a small chamber with rounded corners which has a narrow ledge leading all

Continued on page 40

the way around a spring-fed pool of water. Belief is that due to the effort expended, this was more than a simple water supply, but may have had more spiritual significance. Shown next to it is the Sueno Stone, at 21 feet tall, the largest of the many Pictish carved stones in the Highlands. Intricately carved on all sides, it is now protected from weathering by a glass chamber.



Lest you think that there is nothing of cultural significance to do here in the far north besides ceilidh dancing or snail watching (or watching snails ceilidh dancing).....here are a troupe who recently presented an outdoor performance of music and prose at Dunnett Forest. The audience traveled through the forest with the performers to different settings uniquely appropriate to the performance. It was one of the most unique things either of us had ever seen in the way of musical entertainment.



Here are some flowers we have discovered on our walks, in increasing order of rarity: the hillsides

abloom in golden gorse, Scottish heather, the heath spotted orchid, sea rocket (rocket is what they call arugula here), the rare butterfly orchid, and the rarer Scottish primrose, which in the whole world, only grows on the north coast where we live.



More Highland hiking photos



Continued on page 41

This is a sheep gate in a dry-stone wall farm boundary wall.



We spent an afternoon panning for gold on at the site of the 1860's Scottish gold rush.



As my pace of life has slowed, living here in the far north, I notice things that I would have breezed right past in my old life in Indiana. For example.....snails. Snails are not something you see much of in Indiana, or perhaps it is just that most people would never notice them in the hectic pace of life. Now, I see them all the time during my walks. And I am amazed by their diversity and variety of lovely colors. Here are a few examples that I have snapped photos of.



Continued on page 42



This big blue one had a two inch diameter shell and was near four inches from antennae to tail.



A bit of a snuggle in a cozy wee leaf.



The baby above was 1/3 the size of a penny.

And the truly tiny one resting inside the larger shell below was less than 2 millimeters in diameter.



Ceillidh dancing.....I think that this is the snail version of the Circassian Circle.



I have often talked about how welcoming the Scots have been since we arrived here. Recently we heard a story from World War 2, of a German who may well have been one of my relatives, on my grandmother's side. Heinrich Steinmeyer was held at the Cultybraggan POW camp in Scotland for several years. It was common practice for prisoners to be released for the day to do work on local farms. He was made to feel so welcome by the Scots, that when the war ended, he opted to stay and work in the village, surrounded by the beautiful hillsides. Eventually, he returned to Germany, but he never forgot how the Scots made him feel welcome. Upon his death, he left his entire life savings to the village, where it has been used for a variety of community projects.

"Did not strong connections draw me elsewhere, I believe Scotland would be the country I would choose to end my days in."Benjamin Franklin

That's all, folks!