



# Beth's NEWFANGLED FAMILY TREE

AN INTERNET ALL ETHNICITIES GENEALOGICAL PUBLICATION

THE HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

Vol. IX Issue No. 5 Beth's Newfangled Family Tree Section B October 2014

## Ventura's (CA) Seaside Highland Games return October 9-12

The Volunteer Crew of the Seaside Highland Games is preparing to welcome you to the Ventura County Fairgrounds for their TWELFTH straight Festival this October. The dates are October 9, 10, 11 & 12 and the planned activities will keep you moving all four of those days! The big weekend is October 11 & 12 on the Fairgrounds, of course, but leading up to that are the Second Annual Seaside Golf Tournament on Thursday and the Single Malt Whisky Tasting and the "A Scottish Evening" event on Friday!

The crowd will fill the Sheraton Ballroom for a fine buffet supper, live entertainment by a lead weekend entertainer and the presentation of Seaside's Famous Scottish Fashion Show. Fashions ranging from haute couture to more accessible items from fine Vendors at the Festival and the models are your friends and loved-ones! A silent auction is a very special part of this evening where you may take home a piece to complete just the right look! And a bottle of fine Scotch will be up for grabs, too!

Saturday around noon on the Fairgrounds comes the ever-popular Opening Ceremonies

*Continued on page 3*



# STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES & SCOTTISH FESTIVAL

## 2014 DATES

### OCTOBER 18th and 19th

Attend "The Friendly Games."

Meet your fellow clansmen and celebrate along with our Honored guests and many old friends who will gather in this picturesque setting so rich in heritage.

## SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES

October 18 - 19, 2014

9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.

STONE MOUNTAIN PARK MEADOW

Highland Games	Childrens Activities
Gathering of Clans	Scottish Shops & Foods
Pipe Bands	Scottish Dancing
Demonstrations	Scottish Harping & Fiddling
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**In Advance: Sat \$17\*, Sun \$15\*, Kids \$5**

**At the Gate: Sat \$19\*, Sun \$17\*, Kids \$6**

Presented by:

STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES, INC.

P.O. Box 384, Marietta GA 30061

(770) 521-0228

Website: [www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org)



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\*Plus auto pass entry fee. No pets allowed please.

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## Seaside Highland Games, *continued from page 1*

and Grand Parade. Come early for that event to secure a seat and, if you are not in it, you will be sure to catch the heart-thumping bands and clan contingencies as they march by so close, you could touch them! ALL activities come to a halt the grounds over for this event and then resume to their full capacity at the conclusion.

Three stages filled with the best professional Scottish/Celtic/Irish entertainers to be found will match your every mood. The Alex Beaton Stage, the Main Street Center Stage, will highlight the Browne Sisters and George Cavanaugh and the very excellent Men of Worth from “up north”. The indoor Celtic Spring Stage will present, who else but Celtic Spring themselves along with Hidden Fifth and the very fine Bows & Toes. Then, at the far end of Main Street—our Clan Row—is the Celtic Rock Stage where the slightly more raucous 1916 Band and The Ploughboys will let loose with some fun and entertaining riffs!

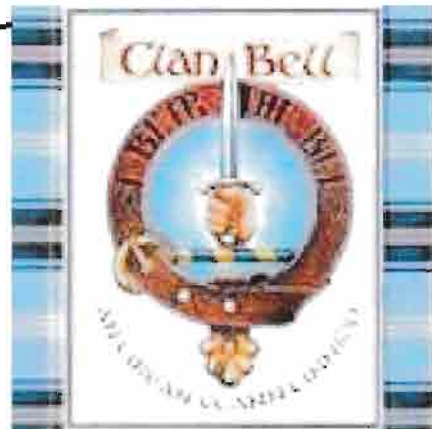
Don't miss the athletic competitions while you are at that end of the Fairgrounds where the Highland Heavies, the 805 Heavies, the Big Boys, will show how it's done! Hammers, weights, sheafs and cabers—ALL get tossed by men and women athletes alike! A show like no other you won't want to miss!

Clan Row encompasses so much—80+ Clans and Societies and be sure and check the Scottish Fiddle competitions, see and experience the Clan Currie Harp Glen

*Continued on page 5*



# Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, they engaged in the “rieving” of the period and participated in many battles against the English.



Declared “unruly” by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan were “encouraged” to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

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

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

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

President & Membership:

**David E. Bell**

1513 Anterra Drive

Wake Forest, NC 27587

debellinn@reagan.com

*Visit our Website:*

**clanbell.org**



**Seaside Highland Games, *continued from page 3***

and “Petting Zoo” (don’t worry, they won’t bite) and, on Sunday, be sure and check out the Drum Major Competition on the green. Ray Pearson’s Single Malt Scotch Seminars are available to you, as are the plentiful Celtic food and quality merchandise vendors in the Shopping Halls and spilling out onto the grounds.

Dance of all sorts—Highland and Scottish Country Dance in McBride Hall along with a variety of surprise performers, too! The Children’s Glen across the way is a place where the wee ones will want to spend some time. Well worth it, folks, as these fine volunteers bring all sorts of activities right down to your child’s needs and abilities.

Grab a Games t-shirt and program either on your way out and you will remember your experience well until it’s time for Festival #13!

For more information see [seaside-games.com](http://seaside-games.com) or call **John & Nellie at 818-886-4968**. Thanks and we hope to see you in October!



**Eurasian Beaver making a come-back in Scotland**

The Scottish Beaver Trail has resulted in the conviction that the Eurasian beaver can indeed thrive in Scottish ecosystems. The experimental reintroduction of Eurasian beavers by the Scottish Wildlife Trust and the Royal Zoological Society into Knapdale Forest in Argyll has been deemed a success, and the Scottish Government will decide on further reintroductions by May of 2015. The Eurasian beaver, a smaller cousin of the American beaver, has been extinct in Britain since the 1500s.





# clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

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

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

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



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

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

# Dunbars tour Scotland in August



Thirty-five Dunbars have returned from a tour of Scotland that took from the 15th to the 26th of August to complete. Dunbars and kin from all over the United States and Australia visited many sites historically connected to the Dunbar name. Accompanying the group was Sit James Dunbar of Mochrum, 14th Bt. and his wife Margaret, Lady Dunbar.

Highlights of the trip included a visit to the town of Dunbar, and exploration of the castle ruins there. The group also visited Mordington, and planted a beech tree near the grave of Agnes Dunbar, also known as “Black Agnes,” for her hair and dark features She is known for holding off English forces that had besieged the castle while her husband and the main force of the castle army was away.

Other highlights included staying overnight in the castle at Ackergill Tower near Wick. This is a picturesque castle and grounds that brings to mind the age of chivalry, knights and fair damsels.

The annual dinner and general meeting of Clan Dunbar was held there in the great hall and adjoining rooms.

The experience impacted all the members as they “touched the past.”



## It's not too late to attend the 2014 Clan Henderson AGM

Dear Cousins:

In preparation for the 2014 Clan Henderson AGM, I'm trying to get the final head count for those who will be attending the AGM this year in Olcott, New York. So far I have confirmed the individuals listed below. The (#) represents the number of individuals in your group that will be attending. If I'm missing a person or your significant other, please inform me.

**As well, in order for you to receive free admission and to speed up your check-in, please email me the following information ASAP so that I may supply it to the Festival's event coordinator in advance:**

- **Your name and names of those in your party**
- **Your email address**
- **Your mailing address**

When arriving at the festival location, you will be asked to sign in at the Operations Gate to receive your

*Continued on page 9*



# 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](mailto: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.





Henderson

**Clan Henderson AGM, continued from page 7**

wristband. The Operations Gate is located slightly west of the Front Entrance (along the road). Once you have the wristband, you may enter through the main entrance throughout the weekend. Festival staff will be directing traffic; please ask them to direct you to the Op-

erations Gate for clan members.

- (2) Vincent and Sherry Henderson
- (2) John and Kim Henderson
- (2) Tom and Linda Hendricks
- (2) Cathy Balmer and her Cousin-?
- (3) Rex and Pat Maddox, and their Daughter- Kim-

berly

- (1) Leon Hicks
- (1) Mark Henderson
- (2) Fred and Peggy Sanford
- (2) Bruce and Dawn Henderson, two Daughters-?
- (5) Tom and Barb Henderson, two Daughters-?and son in-law-?

- (1) Steve Henderson
- (2) Larry Henderson and Jan

On Friday, September 12, lunch and the Executive Board Meeting will be held at Gordy Harper's Restaurant and Bazaar. Lunch will begin at 1 pm (at your own expense) and all invited to attend for fellowship. The Executive Board meeting will begin at 2 pm following lunch. Participants in the 2 pm meeting are the Commissioners and Elected Officials. All, however, are welcome to listen in but would not have any speaking rights. Your opportunity to provide input will be on Saturday during the AGM meeting.

The restaurant is located on the main route midway between the festival and the Lockport Inn:

Gordie Harper's Bazaar  
333 Lockport-Olcott Rd.  
Newfane, NY 14108.

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

The 14th Annual Niagara Celtic Festival and Highland Games are situated in Krull Park on the shores of Lake Ontario in historic Olcott, NY. Please go to their website for full details.

Festival web site: [www.niagaraceltic.com](http://www.niagaraceltic.com)  
Tourism web site: [www.niagara-usa.com](http://www.niagara-usa.com)

Opening Ceremonies are usually at 12 noon. Let's make sure we have an excellent showing out on the field! The AGM (Annual General Meeting) will be on Saturday, September 13, at 2:00 pm at the Clan Henderson tent. Following the meeting at 3:00 pm, we will have our Clan Henderson walk about (usually a brief couple of tunes) around the Clan Row area. **Bruce Henderson**, from the famed "**D**" **Company Buffalo City Guards Gordon Highlanders**, will supply a couple of pipers for us. **Thanks, Bruce!**

I really look forward to seeing everyone. It has been a good many years since I've seen some of you and look forward to meeting everyone else for the first time!

As a reminder, please respond to the e-mail with the full names of each that will be attending for the free entrance and wrist band. Also, **let me know if you are planning on attending the lunch on Friday, September 12, and who will be attending the Executive Board Meeting.** It would also be helpful if you could share where you plan on staying in the area.

Yours Aye!!

Gary Henderson, FSA Scot, Northeast Commissioner. Email: [bagpipes@roadrunner.com](mailto:bagpipes@roadrunner.com)



## Language debate now in Wales

Welsh Language Commissioner, Meri Huws, has proposed that the Welsh language be placed first on all road and directional signs throughout the country.

The Welsh Assembly Government has no problem with that, but twelve of the country's twenty-two local councils have come out against the idea, sometimes on the grounds that their areas are majority English speaking.

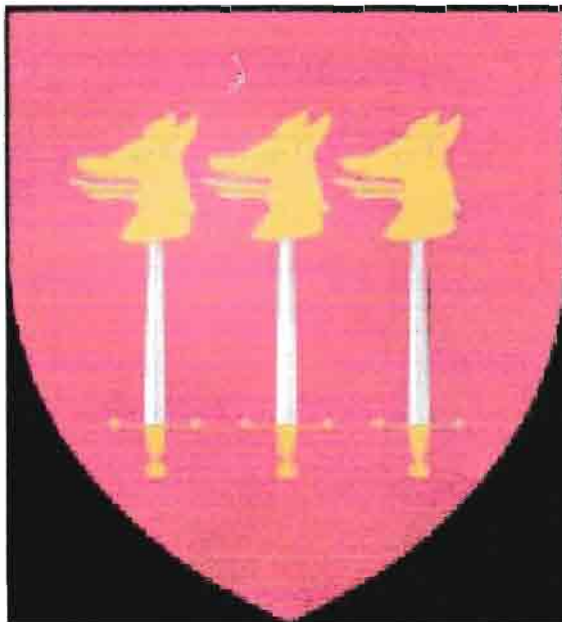
The change-over, though, would bring consistency to the nation's language.

With opinion divided, it's up to the Welsh Government to decide whether or not to mandate a Welsh-first rule for the entire country.

# The Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association,  
Inc., invites membership  
from SKENE and  
septs CARISON,  
CARNEY/CARNIE,  
CURREHILL, DYAS,  
DYCE, DYER, HALL,  
HALYARD/HALLYARD,  
MacGAILLARD, RENNIE  
& SKAINS.

**Dorna Comp, president**  
103 Sumners Alley  
Summerville, SC 29485  
(dkc1027@yahoo.com)



The Arms of Danus George Moncreiff  
Skene of Skene, Chief of the Name and Arms  
of Skene

## **A Historical Handbook to Scotland**

by Duncan MacPhail

*This book is useful in EVERY Scottish clan tent!*

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or a USPS Money Order or Check

\$25.00 includes s/h

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688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523



Joanne Crawford and her family on the Clan Crawford adventure

# *A delicious taste of the Clan Crawford 2014 trip to Scotland...*

## **Crawford, Crawfordjohn, Strathhaven & Loudoun Hill**

**Joanne Crawford**

[jcrawfordphd@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jcrawfordphd@sbcglobal.net)



### **THE CRAWFORD SURNAME Y-DNA PROJECT**

**Trace your Crawford origins.**  
Males surnamed Crawford &/  
or descended in the Crawford  
Y-DNA line are eligible.

**Information, listing of current  
results, & signing up for testing  
can be accessed at**

**<http://www.clancrawford.org>**

**& click on "Genealogy"**

**To contact the project coordinator, e-mail  
Kevan Crawford, Ph.D. at:**

**[dr\\_fission@prodigy.net](mailto:dr_fission@prodigy.net)**

On June 24th some 25 Crawfords descended on Craufurdland Castle in Fenwick, Ayrshire.

That evening was the beginning of our very eventful and delightful tour of Crawford sites in Southern Scotland.

The next day we began with a visit to Crawford and Crawfordjohn, where we discovered our origins. Crawford Castle, also known as "Lindsey Castle", because we have to recognize that Crawfords actually never lived in that castle, though they built the one beneath it, which instead of the stone of the visible ruins, was actually a motte and bailey (wood and mud) fortification introduced around the 10th century.

It consisted of a motte (a mound on which the castle was built) surrounded by a fortified enclosure next to the motte. It often contained a "keep" or fortified tower made of wood or stone.

Crawford Castle was actually destroyed by William Wallace who raised quite a few castles in Southern Scotland in his attempt to deprive the English invaders of refuges in the border areas of Scotland.

Crawfordjohn remained with the Crawford family when a divided Barony of Crawford was obtained by the Lindsays through marriage to a Crawford Heiress. At least that is the Crawford version of the story.

The town of Crawford and the site of the castle next to it were part of the barony, thus passed to the Lindsay's. But the town of Crawford is associated quite accurately

*Continued on page 13*

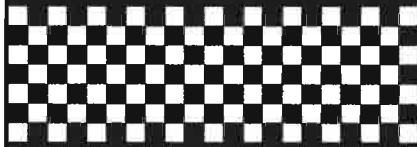


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Thomas Freeman  
 tom@caberdancer.com  
 706-839-6612



**Congratulations  
Mr. & Mrs.  
Lyll Davidson!**



*It's with much joy and pride  
that we introduce to you to our  
new daughter, Penny Davidson.*

*She arrived: September 5th  
and weighed 7lb. 9oz.*

*She was 50cm tall.*

*We're both completely smitten  
with our little bundle*



**Congratulations  
to the Clan  
Davidson Society-  
USA on their  
successful AGM**

Congratulations to the organizers of the CDS-USA AGM out in Estes Park. Tom Davisson, RD for the event, reports that members from 10 States and numbering around 75 were in attendance.



**Crawfords in Scotland, continued from page 11**

with the origins of our surname.

Crawfordjohn was inherited by John son of Reginald who had inherited the land from his father. It passed to the Barclay's when a Barclay married the Crawford heiress, then was re-acquired by Crawfords with a remarriage to a Barclay, from whom the Crawfords obtained Kilbirnie.

Crawfordjohn was later exchanged with a Hamilton for a property nearer to Kilbirnie, thus consolidating the Crawford property within Ayrshire.

We would visit Kilbirnie (both town and castle later in the tour.

By the way, you will be interested to know that John Muir's father grew up in Crawfordjohn.



## Clan Elliot Society, USA

Membership information 2014

*President Michael D. Elliott*

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

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

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

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

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

*(Fortiter Et Recte)*

*Boldly and Rightly*



# A story of Clan Donald

With thanks to *Fraoch Eilean*, Newsletter of CDUSA Midwest

In this issue, we are going to pass on an article that was written for *Scotland Now* about Clan Donald.

THE Macdonalds are one of the oldest and biggest of all Scottish clans. More than 40 tartans are associated with their name and the histories of the various branches are intricately connected. Yet across the world their name is forever associated with the Glencoe Massacre, when 38 unarmed Macdonalds were killed by two detachments of the Earl of Argyll's Regiment of Foot led by Robert Campbell of Glen Lyon. Another forty women and children died of exposure after their homes were burned.

The truly horrific aspect of the Macdonald slaughter by their Campbell guests is that a king and his government backed the genocide of their own people. This single fact has guaranteed its infamy.

For almost 400 years Clan Donald ruled the western seaboard of Scotland, controlling an empire big and powerful enough to challenge the Scottish kings.

Their story starts with Somerled. Born, it's thought, in Morvern around 1113, this half Norse, half Celtic

warrior rose to such power that he and his descendants were known as the Lords of the Isles.

The Vikings had been the dominant force on Scotland's west coast and controlled the local population from their strongholds and settlements.

With fewer men and almost no equipment, Somerled captured Viking ships and equipment, eventually establishing a fleet of smaller craft that could outmanoeuvre the Viking longboats.

He is credited with inventing the rudder, which he put in the middle of his galleys, instead of using the Viking 'steer board' on the right, which later became known the starboard side of the boat.

His island empire stretched the length of the west coast of Scotland.

King Malcolm IV recognised the threat and tried to expand into Somerled's territory. In 1164 Somerled brought a force of more than 160 galleys and 15,000 men to the Firth of Clyde to stop Malcolm's advance.

His army disembarked near where Erskine Bridge stands today. The sea warrior was forced to fight on land. The two sides eventually met in an area that has since been heavily developed and it was here that Somerled was killed.

After the Battle of Renfrew the Kingdom of the Isles was divided between three of his sons. His grandson Donald gave his name to the clan and it was his grandson, Angus Og – who rekindled the fortunes of the Macdonalds.

In 1314 he stood with 5,000 Macdonalds with King Robert Bruce at Bannockburn.

His loyalty was well rewarded and by the 15th cen-

*Continued on page 17*



**Important for  
Americans  
to remember...**

**Sept 1, 1939 - Hitler and the  
German Reich invaded Poland  
and started WWII.**

**This year was the  
75th Anniversary.**

**Sept 2, 1945 marks the official  
end of WWII.**



# Clan Forrester

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# 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](mailto:benbf@windstream.net)



## FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

• Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester /  
Foeister / Foerster / Forstler / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families

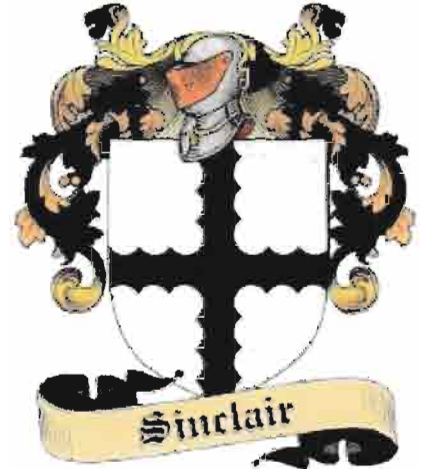




# Clan Sinclair International Clan Gathering in Caithness Thursday 23 July – Wednesday 29 July 2015

Plans are beginning to take shape for an International Gathering which we plan to hold next year in Caithness. It has been unusually difficult to arrange as we overlap with the Clan Gunn Gathering and for various reasons the suitable hotels in Wick and Thurso have already been booked. With helpful input from the Presidents of our Associations overseas, it has been decided to base ourselves at John O'Groats.

I have reserved an equal number of rooms at the Seaview Hotel and the Inn at John O'Groats. There are disadvantages and advantages of taking rooms there but there is no sensible alternative. The Inn only does bedroom accommodation – of a standard above that usually found in hotels in



Caithness - but nearby there is the Storehouse which is a good café and serves breakfast.

The Seaview Hotel is only 300 yards away and most evening meals will be held there as they can feed us all and can also serve breakfast for those staying at the Inn if required. The advantages are that it is different to what we have done before; John O'Groats is a destination in its own right; we will all be close together and can eat together in the evenings. We will have the hotel to ourselves.

Due to the standard of accommodation offered there will be a price differential between the two places. For further information see <http://www.naturalretreats.com/uk/john-ogroats/> and <http://www.seaviewjohnogroats.co.uk/>

As we overlap with the Clan Gunn Gathering we will as in 2000 walk onto the field at the Halkirk Games on Saturday with them. Iain Gunn and I thought this would be an unprecedented opportunity for both Clans to get together one evening and so on Friday 24th there will be a musical extravaganza in Wick. Accompanying Rory Sinclair, Past President of Clan Sinclair Canada, will be the two other members of his band Caledon County and they will play for us as well as local musicians.

**Numbers:** we are limiting numbers to two coaches (96 people in total). Places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis so, if you are interested, please

*Continued on page 19*



## Clan Donald,

*continued from page 15*

tury the Macdonalds were riding high. With royal backing they consolidated their position and were able to build and maintain an alternative Celtic model parliament at their stronghold at Loch Finlaggan on Islay where they held their court.

Macdonald power was further diminished at the Battles of Harlaw and Bloody Bay, which pitted father against son and caused irrevocable divisions.

The Lordships of the Isles tore themselves apart and the only victor was the Stewart monarchy.

Three Macdonald divisions, included the surviving Glencoe Macdonalds, stood on the left wing of the Jacobite army at Culloden. Government grapeshot and musket fire tore the Highlanders to pieces.

In the 150 years after Culloden, it's estimated that upwards of two million people left Scotland. As part of this great Scottish diaspora the children of Clan Donald have settled across the globe.

A recent scientific survey suggests that one in four Macdonalds can trace their origins back to Somerled. Only one man has more living descendants, and that man is Genghis Khan.

With thanks to *Fraoch Eilean*, official Newsletter of Clan Donald Midwest & Great Plains Region.

Contact CDUSA Midwest & Great Plains at [clandonaldmwgp@gmail.com](mailto:clandonaldmwgp@gmail.com).

# 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:  
PO Box 393  
Stone Mountain,  
GA 30083

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

**Join Clan Gregor today! [www.clangregor.org](http://www.clangregor.org)**

# Westford Knight to be featured by Scott Wolter on H2 TV

People come from near and far to look at the Westford Knight, a historic carving in a rock along the side of Depot Street in Westford, MA that has brought international fame to the town.

One of those people was geologist Scott Wolter from the History 2 Channel's "America Unearthed," who made an appearance recently in Westford to observe a previously undiscovered etching on the rock.

The known marks in the rock are considered by some to represent the head and torso of a knight holding a sword and shield. Others conjecture it to be a man-

made etching of a medieval sword. Still others speculate that it is a natural carving.

Westford firefighter David Christiana and Westford Knight devotee Shane

Greenslade were cleaning the rock in June when they came across a strange, small marking.

Christiana wondered if the new marking could be what is known as the "hooked X," a cross-shaped etching with a line jutting out the top left-hand side.

Westford resident and author David Brody, who wrote a novel about the legend called *Cabal of the Westford Knight*, said the marking is often used on other carvings as a type of signature. He said he believes the carving dates back to the late 1300s.

The legend of the Westford Knight is that the rock dates back to a traveling party of Henry Sinclair in the 1300s, and acts as a commemoration to a fallen member of the party.

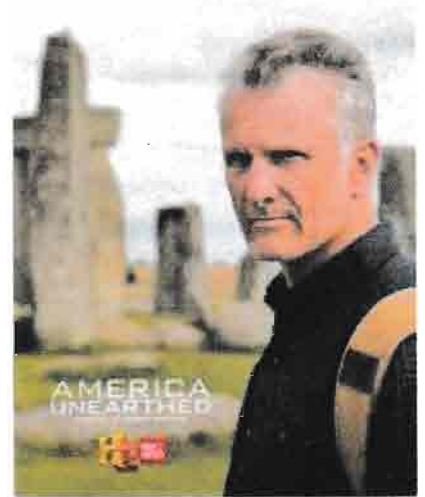
Wolter looked at the rock to determine if the markings were manmade or simply weathered by nature, and also the date of the marking.

Brody said he met Wolter in 2006 at the library, as both were doing research on the Westford Knight. It was through that connection that he called Wolter after the discovery of the "hooked x."

Wolter's determination will be revealed at the show's airing, which will occur in the late fall.

Follow the Westford Eagle on Twitter @Westford\_Eagle

*Your editor worked with the late Pete Cummings years ago doing publicity for the 500th anniversary of Prince Henry's voyage to America. I learned then that the Westford Knight had been identified by his Arms as Prince Henry's cousin, Sir Thomas Gunn, who had been Sheriff of Orkney until the time of Prince Henry's voyage...and who disappeared from Orkney at that time.*



## Clan Sinclair, continued from page 17



register your interest with Mary Raye Casper (315-673-9044) quickly.

At this stage, after you have made your own way to Inverness, the **very preliminary itinerary** looks like:

Thursday 23 July AM Coaches depart Inverness. Visit en route. Arrive Caithness late afternoon.

Friday 24 July - Relaxed morning followed by boat trip around Stroma. Evening – Joint party with Clan Gunn in Wick

Saturday 25 July - Halkirk Games

Sunday 26 July - Church Service, visit to Caithness Horizons and Castle of Mey

Monday 27 July - Day visit to Orkney

Tuesday 28 July - Castle Sinclair Girnigoe and Noss Head. Farewell dinner in Wick

Wednesday 29 July - AM Coaches depart for Inverness

**Cost:** The costs have yet to be finalised and as soon as I have these I will let you know. Non-refundable deposits will be required by the end of December. *Malcolm*

Remember: Contact Mary Raye Casper at 315-673-9044 to reserve your space or for more information about the Clan Sinclair trip.

We encourage everyone who is interested in the great Clan Ramsay to join the **Clan Ramsay Association of North America**. Contact David Ramsey: [davidf.ramsey@verizon.net](mailto:davidf.ramsey@verizon.net)



## Become a part of Clan Ramsey's DNA Project!

*What is it?* DNA testing is a new and exciting tool for genealogists. It enables people to get an idea of how closely they are related to those of the same last name. The Ramsey/Ramsay DNA Project focuses on testing males of the last name **Ramsey** or **Ramsay**. The results are compiled together with the results from other Ramsey/Ramsay males and we get an idea of who is related to whom, and ultimately we can link different lines together. But to do that, the project needs lots of people to participate.

## The Clan Ramsay Genealogy Project

The Clan Ramsay Genealogy project's mission is to foster the spirit of kinship and pride existing among all who have Ramsay ancestry, regardless of spelling. Clan family names include: Ramsay, Ramsey, Dalhousie, Ramsay of Bamff, Ramsay of Balmain, Maulè, Brecheen, and Brechin. The clan genealogy database was established in 1997 to provide a clearinghouse for Ramsay family data and history.

The Clan Ramsay genealogy database was created using The Master Genealogist, Wholly Genes, Inc.; 5144 Flowertuft Court, Columbia, Maryland 21044; 410-715-2260. <http://www.whollygenes.com>

## Sister Associations of Clan Ramsay in Australia, Nova Scotia and Finland!

**Quarterly Newsletter - The Ramsay Report** is available to all members!

## Clan Ramsay represented at Scottish Games & Events all over the country

Clan Ramsay is represented all over the United States at Scottish Games, Gatherings and Events. See us at The Loch Norman Highland Games in NC; Iron Thistle Scottish Heritage Festival and Highland Games in OK; AGM of the Clan Ramsay Association of

Carl Bailey the founder of Clan Ramsay Association of North America and Clan Chief James Hulbert Ramsay Lord Dalhousie.



## Clan Ramsay needs YOU!

There are openings available in the state/region commissioners roster where you would be most welcome. Contact David Ramsey at [davidf.ramsey@verizon.net](mailto:davidf.ramsey@verizon.net) for full information and details about The Clan Ramsay Association of North America.



Nova Scotia; Smoky Mountain Highland Games in TN; Gallabre - Greenville Scottish Games, SC; Glasgow Highland Games, KY; Chicago Highland Games, IL; Monterey Scottish Games, CA; Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, NC; Colorado Scottish Festival and Rocky Mountain Highland Games, CO; Virginia Scottish Games, VA; The Caledonian Club of San Francisco, Annual Scottish Highland Games, CA; Columbus Scottish Festival, IN; Charleston Scottish Games & Highland Gathering, SC; Ligonier Highland Games, PA; Scotland County Highland Games, NC; Indianapolis Scottish Highland Games and Festival, IN; Stone Mountain Highland Games, GA; and The Scottish Christmas Walk of the Clans, VA.



# Flowers of the Forest



We are saddened to learn about the passing of **Dr. Elsie Quarterman**, a life time member of Clan Sinclair USA, on June 9, 2014. She was born on November 28, 1910 in Valdosta, Georgia.

Her grandmother on her father's side of the family was Susan Evalyn "Susie" Sinclair whose father, Benjamin Waters

Sinclair, immigrated from Thurso, Scotland to Georgia in 1837.

Elsie moved with her family to the family farm in 1921 where she developed from her mother an abiding interest in wild plants which eventually led to her receiving a masters degree in Botany and doctorate in plant ecology from Duke University.

At Vanderbilt University, she was one of the first women to gain a full professorship and the first female to be appointed department chair (in Botany).

Elsie is credited with rediscovering in 1969 the native Tennessee coneflower, *Echinacea tennesseensis*, a plant only found in Middle Tennessee cedar glades that was previously thought to be extinct. It became the first plant endemic to Tennessee to be protected by the Endangered Species Act, and thanks to her efforts to establish more populations within the cedar glades, was removed from the endangered species list in August 2011. Today, *Echinacea tennesseensis* can be found in Tennessee's Davidson, Wilson and Rutherford counties.

In 1998, the 185-acre forest near LaVergne, Tennessee, where she conducted much of her research was

named the Elsie Quarterman Cedar Glade State Natural Area in her honor.

Former students and Tennessee State Parks honored her pioneering work in 2008 by renaming an annual spring wildflower event at Cedars of Lebanon State Park, celebrated annually for more than 30 years, the Elsie Quarterman Wildflower Weekend.

Elsie was proud of her Scottish heritage, including her Sinclair ancestry which has taken her back to Scotland to Caithness on numerous visits. Steve Snoddy, Tennessee Commissioner, remembers "On the Bouschorled tour of Caithness in 1991, I followed Elsie down the rock slope at old Kiess Castle so that we could track down something growing near the water's edge; this is when she was in her eighties."

In 2006, she visited Noss Head, Castle Sinclair Girnigoe as well as Rosslyn Chapel.

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**Norman "Norm" C. Knight**, born September 1, 1930, the loving husband of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide Advisory Director for Canada, Dorothy (Wallace) Knight, passed away on Thursday, June 12, 2014 surrounded by his family. Norm and Dorothy were best friends and married for almost 63 years.

Norm was a retiree of Chrysler Corporation with 36 years of service, where he was a spray painter and worked in the "re-work" department refinishing imperfections resulting from the manufacturing process.

He was a member of Woodslee (Canada) IOOF Lodge and past director of the Woodslee Credit Union and Federation of Agriculture. He had many interests but wood working was his passion. He and Dorothy enjoyed their many travels to Scotland, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and especially Italy, where he visited his brother's grave in Ortona.

Norm was a very active Annual member of the Clan

*Continued on page 23*

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

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



Chief Steven  
MacTavish

## We Are Clan MacTavish!



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



# The dragons of Scotland's Sterling Bridge

On the old Stirling Bridge, Scotland, there are two gate guardians flanking the entrance to the Forth on the north side. They take the form of the dragon from the helmet of William Wallace.

They signify that the battle is over and won, Wallace is at peace, and the dragons are now peacefully sleeping. They were made by Scottish stonemason Gillian Forbes.

On the Clan Wallace trip to Scotland a few years ago, we were at the "bridge" and the dragons were pointed out to us by our guide, Professor Alan Swinton from Edinburgh University.

*The Guardian* Editor's Note: Ms. Gillian Forbes, is a modern stonecarver, who is developing quite a reputation in Scotland. She has been working in stone since 1990, developing the craft of hand carving.

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## Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 21*

Wallace Society Worldwide wherein he assisted Dorothy in her many activities associated with the CWSW. Norm was a very nice guy, as many of us in the CWSW knew from our contacts with him over the years and at the Calgary Gathering in 2012.

The Board and Council of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide express their heartfelt sorrow to Norm's family at his passing. He will be greatly missed by his beloved wife Dorothy, sons Craig and Jon, and daughter Norma Jean, and six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren and the many nieces and nephews.

Working out of her purpose-built studio in the hamlet of Path of Condie, 10 miles southwest of Perth in the Ochil Hills, she creates beautiful stone carvings predominantly from British slate, sandstone and limestone. She specialises in commissioned pieces for individuals and organisations looking for unique, long-lasting, quality work.

For more information on Gillian, readers can visit her website at [www.forbesstonecarver.com](http://www.forbesstonecarver.com).

With thanks to *The Guardian*, publication of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide. The photos are courtesy of Professor Alan Swinton, Edinburgh University.

## The P-rr-tt Society future in limbo...

Falling numbers and fall in annual income, lack of attendance at meetings and by implication, a smaller pool of volunteers to run the society are the driving factor in the P-rr-tt Society committee's thinking about the future of the society.

If you wish to help, if your name is any of the Perrott spellings...and if you'd like more information, contact [www.p-rr-tt.org.uk](http://www.p-rr-tt.org.uk)

This group was founded in 1984 and is for anyone with an interest in any P-rr-tt name. The group publishes a most excellent newsletter/booklet several times a year filled with excellent information.



## Clan Anderson Cottages

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To my mind the most important aspect of looking after guests begins before they even arrive by offering outstanding value for money. So even before you meet us you can rest assured that the quality of the properties including furnishings are of the highest order and value on offer.

*Best wishes & Stand Sure,  
Hope Vere Anderson & Family*



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# *A French connection:*

## The Sipprelles and the Shaws

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**Roberta Shaw-Reeves**, 6277 Cowell Rd., Brighton, MI 48116. Email: robbiesr@charter.net  
With thanks as well to *An Biodag*, the quarterly newsletter of the Clan Shaw Society

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"It's a perfect night to get the old photos out and check on the welfare of the ancestors - the French ones, that is," my Aunt Rowena remarked on a summer evening during a driving rain that drenched the St. John River Valley.

In her hands were two small cardboard boxes.

"I'll make tea and then let's sit down and look at these gems," she said.

While my aunt tended to the tea, I rummaged around on the closet shelves putting aside the boxes marked with French names: Elise, Adele, Marthe, Annette, Robert, Uncle E.M. Sipprelle.

Here were the photos of the descendants of the old Huguenot family who traveled from the seacoasts of Normandy, in France, to the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania in the mid eighteenth century. By 1783, William Siprell, Sr., a Loyalist from Pennsylvania, had landed at the mouth of the St. John River in New Brunswick, Canada.

Aunt Rowena arrived with the tea as well as a photo of a dour-looking couple dressed in the black garments so common in the mid 19th century.

"These are your great-great grandparents," she remarked. "Ezekiel Sipprelle, known as Zeke, and Letitia Shaw Sipprelle. Letitia was the daughter of Nathaniel and Phoebe Shaw. They were young Zeke's neighbors."

My aunt jumped out of her seat and brought me an old tintype of a farmhouse with a crowd of people, dogs and horses in front of the structure. "This is where they lived," she explained. "During the week, Zeke and his brother, Seth, farmed their land. On Sunday, Zeke was a

circuit preacher. After he was ordained in 1840, he brought the Word of the Lord to his far-flung congregation. His reputation as a golden-tongued sermonizer grew each year."

The sweetest part of our French connection is the story of how young Zeke and his future wife, some 18 years his junior, came to know each other.



While visiting at his neighbor, Nathaniel Shaw's house one Sunday, a young boy there teased Zeke about when he planned to marry. Rocking the baby, Letitia Shaw's cradle, Zeke exclaimed, "I'm not in a hurry, I'll just wait for Tishia to grow up."

And, thus it happened that on August 3, 1833, at the age of 17, Letitia Shaw became the bride of the future Reverend Ezekiel Sipprelle. Following the service, the bridegroom assisted his new wife into the saddle behind him and off they rode. Together they flew over fields and pastures of Sommerville, New Brunswick, with Letitia's coppery hair streaming behind her.

In their home, on the banks of the St. John River, they raised 14 children.

I, their, fortunate great-great granddaughter, have been given their lovely old "yard-long" picture of sweet peas that once hung in their parlor.

This information has been compiled with much gratitude to Harold Fritz Sipprell and his genealogy: *William Siprell, Senr. and The Family He Founded*, printed in 1969 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Anecdotes retold by Rowena Shaw MacDonald and Sherrill Shaw Reeves.



# CLAN HOME AIR FORCE WANTS YOU!

Membership open to ALL clans! If you are the first of your clan to join, you become the Air Commander of your clan's squadron of the Clan Home Air Force! All enlistees receive a certificate suitable for framing and the infamous CHAF Stealth Tattoo kit!



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I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ CHAF shirts in sizes \_\_\_\_\_ at \$22.50 each \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

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Mail to: Air Marshall Albert C. Eaton, PO Box 530054, Orlando, FL 32853-0054

# Clan Wallace goes to Scotland for 2014 International Gathering

**Bob Wallace**

*Bob Wallace is a Council member of Clan Wallace Society, served three terms on the Society's Board of Directors, including three years as President.*

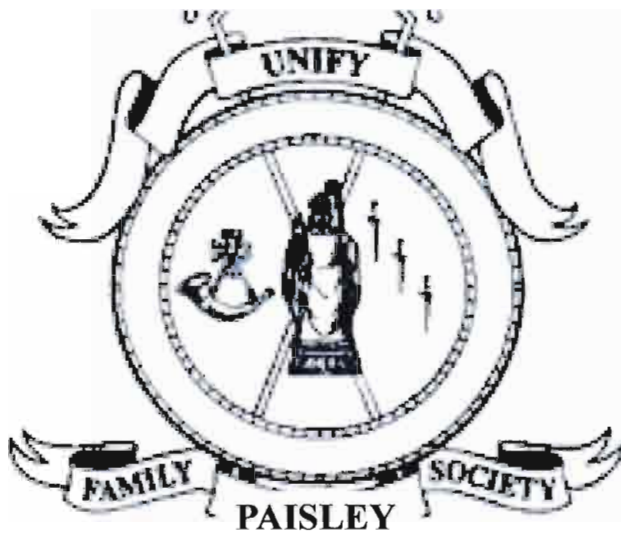
The Bannockburn 700 Festival commemorating the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314 was the focus of Clan Wallace Society Worldwide's (CWSW) recent Gathering held in Scotland. The 8<sup>th</sup> of such Gatherings, the second to be held in Scotland, was organized by Council member Lois Wallace of Ships and Trips Travel. Thirty-seven members, relatives and friends from fifteen U.S. states and one Canadian province were represented within the group, ages ranging from 17 to 80, making this an extremely diverse group with a common interest in all things Scottish, particularly Sir William Wallace

The Gathering tour was based in the convenient Haymarket district of Edinburgh. Arriving in Edinburgh on Tuesday, June 24, much of that first day was spent getting acquainted with everyone, with a welcome dinner held in the hotel that evening to complete the day. Wednesday through Friday were taken up visiting sites in Kilmarnock, Dunfermline, Abbey Craig, walking the Royal Mile in Edinburgh, Lanark and Falkirk prior to the two days at Bannockburn. Some of our group marched in Stirling on Friday evening with other clans

*Continued on page 29*



*Clan Wallace Society being piped in for the Farewell Dinner at the end of their visit in Scotland. Second row center, Andrew Wallace, Younger of that Ilk, Acting Chief of the Society, was guest of honor.*



# PAISLEY FAMILY SOCIETY

All Paisleys of the name or blood (and all spellings) are invited to join. Email: [mbrown2205@aol.com](mailto:mbrown2205@aol.com)

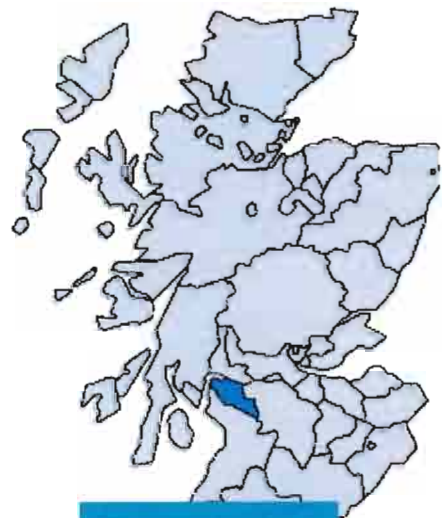


The Chiefly Arms of Paisley of Westerlea

The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots 1165 - 1214.

William I Paisley (died ante 28 September 1171) and William II Paisley (killed in battle ante 1218) were prominent in the following of the first three hereditary stewards of Scotland, while William II Paisley is also noticed attending the itinerant court of the King of Scots during 1179 - 95.

Separate and quite distinct branches of the family had already developed at Lochwinnoch and Paisley and in the Roxburghshire barony of Hawick before the end of King David Bruce's reign in 1371 and the beginnings of others are found in records for Edinburgh and the three Lothians from 1389 onwards and at Dunrod near Borgue (Kirkcudbrightshire) in still Gaelic speaking Galloway from 1585.



Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea, Chieftain of the Paisley Family



Check us out here, shown at Sterling in June of 2014!

Email **Martha Brown** at [mbrown2205@aol.com](mailto:mbrown2205@aol.com) for more information

**Wanna join the Paisley Family DNA Project?**  
Contact **Diane Langston**  
[diangsto@yahoo.com](mailto:diangsto@yahoo.com)

*Clan Wallace, continued from page 27* —————

and pipe bands.

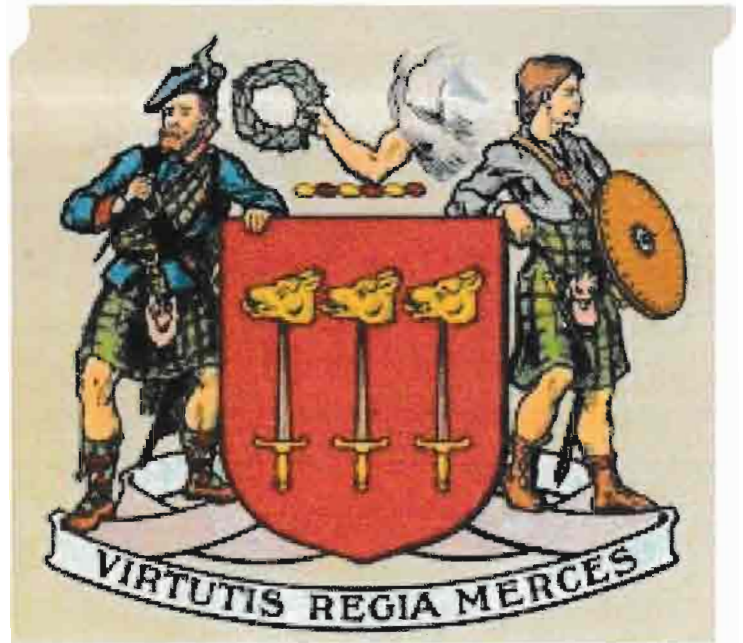
Clan Wallace Society Worldwide was one of 40 clans at the Bannockburn C700 Celebration and Reenactment, providing information about the Society and Sir William Wallace to all who attended. Several of our group attended the pitch (tent) on Saturday to assist CWSW President Larry Slight while the rest enjoyed a free day in Edinburgh. The second day found everyone at the Bannockburn grounds.

Sunday was special for all in our group with the presence of Andrew Wallace, Younger of that Ilk, Acting Chief of Clan Wallace Society, who spent much of the day from 10:00 until late in the afternoon visiting with members attending the Bannockburn 700 grounds. Monday evening was capped with a festive farewell dinner attended by Andrew Wallace as guest of honor which included entertainment by Burnsian Jim Shields, piping by award-winning piper Craig Easton.

Days after the event, Andrew summed up the visit this way: "It was a privilege to be able to welcome so many of the Clan Wallace Society Worldwide to Scotland on the important occasion of the Bannockburn celebrations in late June. Given the substantial crowds and energetic celebrations that surrounded this historic anniversary, people would have been left in no doubt about the strength of the Scottish diaspora and the interest in and loyalty to our country expressed by so many people of Scots descent from all over the world".

David Pummell, one of the attendees, sums up his experience: "The Wallace Gathering Tour was the trip of a lifetime! Ann and I enjoyed every minute of our stay in Edinburgh with Clan Wallace and getting to know all the other members in the group"

The ninth Gathering of Clan Wallace Society 2016 will be held in Salado, Texas, in celebration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Society. For further information about the Society, visit our website at: <http://clanwallace.org/>, clicking on one of the links on the left side of the page.



## Clan Skene sets AGM at Stone Mtn.

The Clan Skene has set the Stone Mountain Highland Games held October 18 & 19, 2014 as their Annual General Meeting site, with an important business meeting at 1pm the 18th of October. New officers will be elected at that time.

Clan Skene will be the Honored Clan at the Smokey Mountain Games on May 16-18, 2015. These games are held at Marysville, Tennessee.

Please make plans to be there. We'd like to get a big turnout. We may be a small clan but we can keep up with the best of them.

## Canadian Gaelic Rebound!

In recent years the numbers of Scots Gaelic speakers in the Scottish community of Cape Breton, Nova Scotia have been in decline.

However, since 2000 the numbers of Gaelic speakers there have nearly tripled, with the latest census figures noting some 1200 Nova Scotians speaking Gaelic fluently.

Dream Catcher Publishing is pleased to announce the release of our latest novel:

## **The Other Side of the Song** by Meg Duly

This is Meg's first novel and we are very excited about this book.

You can purchase the book from:

Amazon.com

Dream Catcher Publishing.net

It will be in Barnes & Noble and other fine stores by end of the month.

*Congratulations to Meg!!!*

Sincerely, Dream Catcher Publishing Staff

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**MARY WILSON RECKNAGEL**  
**-BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals-**  
**-SOBHD Adjudicator-**