



Volume 2, Number 6 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A June 2008

Räknar is thirty! Celebration at Glasgow, KY will be big one!



The Kindome of Räknar's Duke Birka aka Bob Harrison, President of the Glasgow, Kentucky Highland Games, announced recently that the Glasgow Highland Games Board of Directors had voted to give special recognition to The Kindome of Räknar as the Honored Society for the 2008 edition of their Scottish Highland Games.

In conjunction with that news was the announcement that Räknarian David Irvine, Baron of Drum and Chief of the Name of Irwin and resident of Aberdeenshire, Scotland would once again preside over the Glasgow Games as Chief. The very popular Drum, known as Earl Drummock in the Kindome of Räknar and his Lady Carolyn, have been Special Guests of these celebrated games on several occasions. Birka has carried forth his invitation The Kindome is now assembling, planning their descent upon Glasgowntoun enmasse.

2008 marks the 30th year of the society of Scots-Norse overachievers who were founded on the occasion of the 1979 Grandfather Mountain Games by ten friends who preferred each other's company. The fearless leader was one Robert Alexander "Bob" Swanson, a first generation American of Scots ancestry who loved, revered and celebrated his Scots roots and cherished his friends with equal zeal. Known as *Hägar the Horrible* by his many friends and admirers, Bob exhibited the enthusiasm and necessary eccentricities to bind together and grow what is now an impressive organization that has members from all over the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and New Zealand.

Included on our Räknar rolls are thirteen Scottish chiefs and chieftains and distinguished personalities like the immediate past Lord Lyon King of Arms. These ladies and gentlemen are anchored by many notable

Americans from the Scottish community why continue to celebrate their association and the good works of the society.

They are all led by Jim Kilpatrick, known in the kindome as Gude King Brodir, the successor to the Räknar throne after Bob Swanson's untimely passing in 1993.

The Kindome of Räknar will be very much in evidence at the 2008 edition of the Glasgow Highland Games, which will be celebrated from May 29 - June 1, 2008 at the Barren River Lake State Park near Glasgow, Kentucky. These very special games will include many activities that will celebrate our Scottish Norse connection and all anchored by the now famous Sunday night Kindome of Räknar Raid, long one of the Scottish community's best ceilidhs with a distinctly adult flavor.

Gude King Brodir has issued a Royal Proclamation inviting all Räknarians to attend what will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of the Scottish calendar, ever in the USA. We understand that there will be grand entertainment and victuals and beverages in sufficiency. All the Räknar personalities will be present making this a must attend do.

We also understand that the 2006 Chief of the Glasgow Highland Games, Margaret Frances Boswell Elliot of Redheugh, the 29th Chief of Clan Elliot aka Elwalda, Honoured Lady of The Kindome of Räknar will also be present for the festivities.

Latest word reflects that the Barren River Lake Lodge and cabins are all sold out in the park prompting the necessity of inquiries in Glasgow, Scottsville and beyond.

**Clan Home Society Luncheon (noon) & AGM (1:30 PM),
Nick's Restaurant, Banner Elk, NC - Friday, 11 July**



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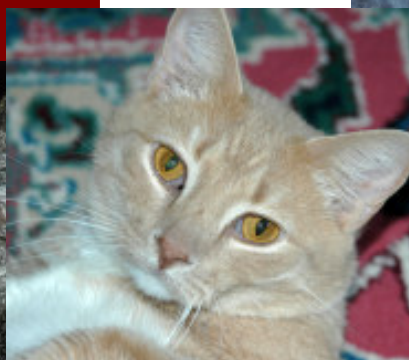
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Miss Narra The Wonder Cat (Queen of all Cats) at left and right...and her Associate Proofreader, Bicket (Biscuit) caught working hard on this issue of *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree*.

Miss Narra says, "Mmmmmffffggggggg." This means, "I am my Mom's heart and I know it." Narra is almost fourteen.

A letter from your editor...



Beth Gay, editor



On wind and rain and games disasters...and lots of clothes

The Scottish Country Fair and Celtic Festival at Sumter, SC this past April had the worst luck this year - and the best luck at the same time.

Early in the day, the sun shone very warmly and the skies were clear. The event planners who had worked so hard, were happy with the turnout and the participants and visitors and vendors were enjoying a day of fellowship, friendship and fun.

Just after maybe 2 PM, the skies darkened and everyone thought, "Well, guess it's going to rain after a'while."

It did rain. In the space of just a few moments, the rain began. Rain that was sideways and copious and hard by the bucketful.

Not only did it rain, but the winds blew at frightening strength. That was the bad luck.

You know they say, "There's no inappropriate weather for a Highland Game - only inappropriate clothing."

This time, I don't think there has been invented appropriate clothing.

The storm, which might have been a "micro-burst" lasted only a few minutes. When the wind passed and the rain stopped, the games were gone. *You may see a few photos on pages 28 and 29 of this issue.*

Thankfully, in spite of the high winds, nobody was seriously hurt although most of the games participants were caught in tents with no sides or just out in the open. Most everyone was wet and bedraggled, in shock and amazed, but everyone was

safe. That was the good luck.

I really hope that the Games in Sumter had insurance to help replace their tents and other Games paraphernalia that were blown nobody knows where. I hope their volunteers and games committee folks won't give up on next year. I hope the vendors will regroup and come again.


The pipe band tents were simply squashed. Nobody was hurt and I know of no instruments that were ruined - but that was simply good fortune. I hope the pipe bands return next time and the dancers and the visitors.

For those new to attending Highland Games I'll explain why "old hands" seem to take a lot of luggage when they go off for a weekend at a Scottish event. You must prepare for any temperature and for any weather as best you can.

I've frozen at Grandfather Mountain in July and Loch Norman in April and Glasgow in June. I've been so hot I thought I would pass out at Grandfather Mountain in July and Loch Norman in April and Glasgow in June. The same can be said for almost any games. I've about drowned at all of the aforementioned events...and have been seen sporting a lovely black plastic trash bag as a rain coat on several occasions.

Once, at Culloden down in Forsyth, Georgia in late May, I wore my sweet friend, George Henderson's, dog bed blanket and was glad of it. I was so happy that it happened to be in the cab of

Continued on page 11



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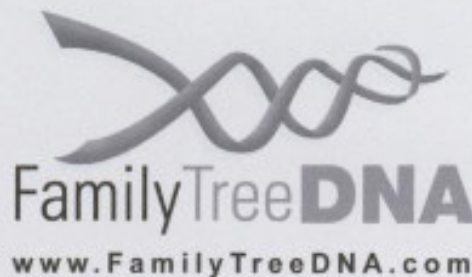
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Where did the name “America” really come from?

We were all taught that the name “America” came from the Italian explorer, Amerigo Vespucci. There is now argument but forth by British writer, Peter MacDonald, that America was named for a Welsh merchant, Richard Amerike, who gave a large amount of money to John Cabot’s 15th century voyage to the New World.

Cabot sailed from Bristol, England, which was also Amerike’s home and business headquarters. Amerike donated large oak trees from his estate to build Cabot’s ships and provided Cabot’s family with a home while the explorer sailed west.

In exchange for his generosity, Amerike requested that Cabot name any newly-discovered lands for him. You can find more on his theory at www.bbc.co.uk/history/discovery/exploration/americaname_01.shtml



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Scottish Words that're fun to know and even use!

Rumple-bane - the lowest bone of the spine.

Crouse - merry, lively, brisk, bold, from the Gaelic ‘craos’ meaning greedy, gluttonous, eager for any pleasure of the senses.

Gunzie - a derogatory name for the nose or mouth, possibly applied originally to the snout of a hog in reference to the grunting noise of the animal.

Muslin-kail - a name applied by Burns to a purely vegetable soup without animal ingredients of any kind and made up of mainly barley, greens and onions.

Sook - a drop, sip, or taste of liquor.

Blaud - to lay anything flat with violence, as the wind or rain does the corn.

Athol Brose - whisky with honey, taken as a morning drop; a powerful and indigestive mixture that no one but a Highlander out in the open air and in active exercise during the whole day can safely indulge in.

Bap - a small wheaten cake or roll, sold in Scotland for breakfast when porridge is not used.

Gowan - a daisy. Derived from ‘day’s eye,’ or more probably from the Gaelic word ‘dise,’ meaning pretty flower.



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It cost an arm and a leg!

In George Washington's day, there were no cameras. One's image was either sculpted or painted. Some paintings of Washington showed him standing behind a desk with one arm behind his back, while others showed both legs and both arms. Prices charged by painters were not based on how many people were to be painted, but how many "limbs" were to be painted.

Arms and legs are "limbs;" therefore, painting them would cost the buyer more. Hence the expression, "It will cost you an arm and a leg."

Famous Oradians...

James Russell Lowell

Pat Long

<http://www.BuyOrkney.com>

It is quite astonishing how much poorer American literature would be without the Orkney Islands: Washington Irving's father, Herman Melville's g-g-grandfather and Robert Frost's mother's family all came from Orkney.

A literary figure who isn't as well-known today but was very influential in his day, had two Orkney ancestors, although he was as American as they come.

James Russell Lowell, 1819-1891, was a very well-connected American. He was a Professor of Modern languages at Harvard; with his friends Henry Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Oliver Wendell Holmes he began a literary periodical, the *Atlantic Monthly*, which is still published today and he was American ambassador in Madrid and London.

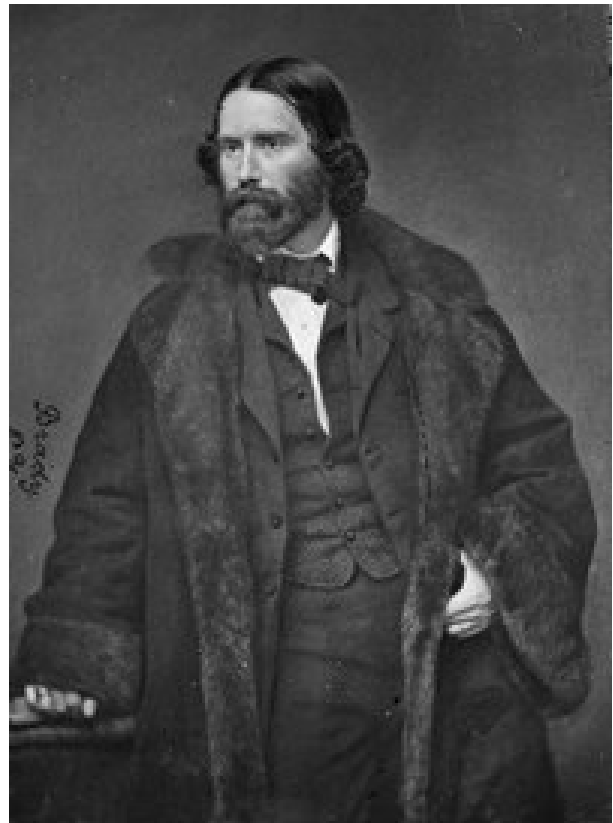
His uncle Francis Cabot Lowell introduced cotton manufacturing to America and his great-grand-uncle, General William Whipple, was one of the New Hampshire signatories of the *Declaration of Independence*.

However, his uncle's name, Robert Traill Spence, gives a clue to another part of his ancestry.

His great-grandfather, Robert Traill, son of William Traill and Barbara Fea in Rousay, emigrated from Orkney and became Comptroller of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. In 1748 he married General Whipple's sister Mary.

Robert was a loyalist during the American War of Independence and returned to Britain when hostilities began. Afterwards he was a collector of taxes in the Bermudas.

Robert and Mary had a daughter Mary who



married another Orcadian, Keith Spence from Kirkwall, who had become a merchant in Portsmouth. They had a son Robert Traill Spence, who became a naval hero and friend of Stephen Decatur, and a daughter Harriet. The Lowells were one of the most important families in Boston, of whom it was said, "The Lowells speak only to Cabots, and the Cabots speak only to God".

Charles Lowell, minister of the West Church in Boston, showed this wasn't always true by marrying Harriet in 1806.

Their son James Russell Lowell was born in Elmwood, Cambridge, Massachusetts on 22 February 1819. He became one of the Fireside Poets, a group which included Henry Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes and John Greenleaf Whittier. His best known work was *The Bigelow Papers*, lampoons that expressed opposition to the Mexican War and supported the North in the Civil War.

He was a prominent opponent of slavery, described by Edgar Allan Poe as, "one of the most rabid of the Abolition fanatics".

In 1855 he succeeded his friend Longfellow as Professor of Modern Languages at Harvard, a

Continued on page 9

James Russell Lowell, *continued from page 8*
position he held until 1876.

Coincidentally, Longfellow's house used to be the home of Andrew Craigie, America's first Apothecary General, whose Orcadian father had been shipwrecked in Nantucket.

The professorship clearly didn't occupy all his time, as it was in 1857 that he helped found the *Atlantic Monthly*, which he then edited for four years. This magazine was one of the first to publish short stories instead of serialized novels and published early work by Mark Twain, Henry James, Edgar Allan Poe and Nathaniel Hawthorne.

In 1877 Lowell became ambassador to Spain and then ambassador to Britain from 1880 to 1885. He was a very successful ambassador and a literary occasion doesn't seem to have been complete without him.

Gladstone described him as one of London's best talkers and his circle included Robert and Elizabeth Browning, Tennyson and Thomas Hughes, author of *Tom Brown's Schooldays*.

Lowell was a pall-bearer at Charles Darwin's funeral at Westminster Abbey. He himself has a memorial window in the chapter-house, largely at the instigation of his friend Leslie Stephen, to whose daughter, later Virginia Woolf, he was godfather.

He returned to his home, Elmwood, Cambridge in 1877 and died there in 1891.

His two wives, Maria White and Frances Dunlap and three of his four children had pre-deceased him but his surviving daughter Mabel married Edward Burnett and raised five children, James, Joseph, Francis, Esther and Lois not too far away, in Southborough, Massachusetts.



James Lowell's nephew, Charles Russell Lowell was made a Brigadier General in the Union Army the day before he was killed in 1864 and his great-grandnephew, Robert Traill Spence Lowell, was also a well-known American poet and won the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1947 and 1974.

The family home of Elmwood is now the residence of the Presidents of Harvard.

Although now largely forgotten, James Russell Lowell was clearly an important literary figure in his day and very widely liked and respected.

He has made an unlikely recent reappearance, as one of the main protagonists in an American best-selling whodunit, *The Dante Club* by Matthew Pearl.

Be sure and visit <http://www.BuyOrkney.com>

What is “Once Removed?”

June Pelo writes in *The Prospector* - the publication of The Clark County Nevada Genealogical Society - about “once removed.”

First cousins have a common grandparent, while second cousins share a common great-grandparent, third cousins share a common great-great-grandparent and so on.

In all of these cases, they are the same number of generations away from the common ancestor.

With first cousins who are “once removed,” they are one generation apart, or removed, in their connection to that ancestor. In other words, one descends from the grandparent; the other from the great-grandparent. Your first cousin’s daughter is your “first cousin once removed.” (And your first cousin once removed’s daughter would be your first cousin twice removed, etc.)

When we say that Lee Marvin is a 1st cousin 4-times removed of Robert E. Lee; this means that Robert E. Lee’s grandfather was Lee Marvin’s 4th great grandfather. Lee Marvin’s 2nd great-grandmother, Ann Matilda Lee and Robert E. Lee were first cousins.

It’s nice to know this when you’re “cemetery searching.”

The oldest graves are found in the south part of a churchyard as it was the custom to avoid the shadow of the church falling across the graves. It was thought that “in the shadows lurked the devil and, as every good man and woman knew, the devil always rode in from the north.”

In Victorian times, the extreme north side of the churchyard was reserved for suicides!

It cam’ wi’ a lass
It’ll gang wi’ a lass.”

(The reign of Stewarts in Scotland - It’ came with a girl - it will end with a girl!) James V on receiving news of the birth of his daughter, Mary, Queen of Scots.



Do you have an Anam Cara?

The Palmetto & Thistle of Melbourne, FL answers this question for us: Do You Have An Anam Cara?

What does it mean and should you have one?

Read and learn more about what your Celtic Ancestors knew and loved - an anam cara. In the Celtic tradition, there is a beautiful understanding of love and friendship. The Gaelic term for this is anam cara. Anam is Gaelic for soul and cara is friend so anam cara means “soul friend.”

In the early Celtic church, a person who acted as a teacher, companion, or spiritual guide was called an anam cara. Originally it meant someone in whom you confided or confessed, revealing your innermost feelings.

When you have an anam cara, you are joined in an ancient and eternal way with the “friend of your soul.”

The Celtic understanding did not set limitations of space or time on the soul. In everyone’s life, there is a great need for an anam cara. In this love, you are understood as you are without mask or pretension. As the superficial, lies and half-truths of social acquaintance fall away, you can be as you really are. When you really feel understood, you feel free to release yourself into the trust and shelter of your soul friend.

Laws of Genealogy - which would be funny if they weren't so true!

In searching for your family, you'll find all of these things and more.

Here are just a few that would be hilarious were it not for the fact that they are so very true.

- * The public ceremony in which your distinguished ancestor participated and at which the platform collapsed under him - turned out to be a public hanging.

- * When at last, after much hard work, you have solved the family mystery that you have worked on for the last five years - your auntie says, "Oh, that? I could have told you that."

- * You search for a decade for your great grandmother's maiden name, only to find it on a letter in a box in the attic that you have gone through a dozen times.

- * You never asked your father about his family when he was alive because you just weren't interested in genealogy back then.

- * You finally discover the location of the will you need. It's in the safe aboard *The Titanic*.

- * Copies of old newspapers with articles concerning your family have holes occurring only on surnames.

- * John, son of Thomas, the immigrant whom your relatives claim as the family progenitor, died on board ship at the age of 8.

- * Your great-grandfather's newspaper obituary states that he died unmarried with no issue.

- * Another genealogist has just insulted the keeper of the vital records you need desperately.

- * The relative who had all of the family photographs gave them all to her daughter who has no interest in genealogy and is not inclined to share.

- * The only record you find for your great-grandfather is that his property was sold at a sheriff's sale of insolvency.

- * The one document that would supply the missing link to your dead-end-line has been lost due to fire, flood or war.

- * The town clerk to whom you wrote for information sends you a long, handwritten letter which is totally illegible.

- * The spelling of your European ancestor's name bears no relationship to its

current spelling or pronunciation.

- * None of the photographs in your recently deceased grandmother's photo album have names written on them except for a few given names that are illegible.

- * Nobody in your entire family ever did anything noteworthy, owned property, was sued or was named in a will.



Games Disasters, *continued from page 3*

his truck. I hope the dog didn't mind - I surely didn't as it was COLD.

It was at Culloden too, one April, that I was holding a birthday cake - and the wind just lifted it up, tore it to shreds and carried it away to rain mysterious German chocolate cake and butter cream icing on unsuspecting folks.

I've ruined good shoes before I learned to leave those at home and wear washable

sneakers....and sometimes boots are better.

When the weather is bad one year at a Highland event - make sure to go back again so that the festival may continue to exist.

Nobody will laugh at your car full of clothing and jackets and boots and umbrellas and fleece and sleeveless garments with your supply of bug ointment, sunscreen and warm fluffy scarves and woolen hats.. Most everyone will be too busy unloading their own huge wardrobe for any weather.

Jacksonville Genealogical Society sets June meeting

The monthly meeting of the Jacksonville Genealogical Society will be held June 21, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. in the Webb-Wesconnett Library, Jacksonville, Fl. Our speaker will be Ann Staley, Certified Genealogist, with a new program dealing with "Heritage Quest Online-The Ins and Outs." Ann will help you in your exploration of Heritage Quest. For further information please contact, Mary Chauncey, at (904) 7682-9300.



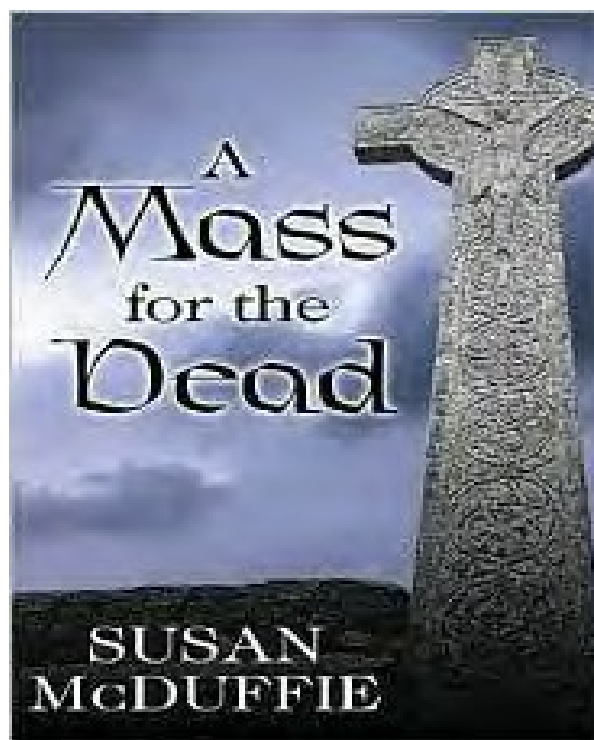
The Macfie Society of America celebrates 25th birthday at Stone Mountain Games 2008!

The Stone Mountain, GA, Scottish Highland Games will be October 17-19 this year. This is the 25th Birthday Celebration of The Macfie Society of America. The Annual Meeting and Birthday Celebration will be Saturday evening, October 18 at the Steak and Ale Restaurant, 2150 Northlake Parkway, Tucker, GA.

For more information on the games, visit <http://www.smhg.org>

Mark your calendars that the 17th International Gathering and 10th parliament of Clan Macfie will be in September of 2009. Dates and venue, etc., will be forthcoming.

For more information on The Macfie Society of America, email jgmcafee@tnaccess.com



MacDuffie Clan Society of America, Inc., of Clan Macfie annual meeting and dinner at Grandfather Mountain

You are invited to join the MacDuffie Clan Society Annual Meeting and Dinner on Saturday evening, July 12 at the Broyhill Inn.

The speaker will be Susan McDuffie, writer and daughter of Commissioner Bruce and Wini McDuffie. She published her first novel, *A Mass for the Dead*, in 2006. The novel is set on the islands of Colonsay and Oronsay in 1373. Susan is soon to complete the sequel to the murder mystery and has entitled it, *The Faerie Hills*.

Ms. McDuffie will share with the group her love of Scotland and how this love has inspired her to write these novels, which are rich with Scottish history and folklore. She will also give us her insight into the research process she used to develop her novels with the authentic language and culture of the Scotland of our early ancestors.

If you'd like to attend or wish more information, please contact John Rosser, president, at jfrossers@aol.com or call 336-275-8819.

You may also find Clan Macfie at www.clanmacfiehomepage.org

Flowers of the Forest

Adam King, Eric's brother, passed away Monday night at 7:30. Many of you got to meet Adam at the Tallahassee, Florida Games. He had pancreatic cancer and had been preparing himself for passing. A lot of Eric's time leading up to the Games had been spent with Adam: arranging his flight to Tallahassee, doctor visits, and Hospice care.

Though he knew time was short, Adam wanted to come to Tallahassee for the Games. He had a great time, though he tired as the days wore on.

Please keep Eric, Susan, Rick, and the whole family in your thoughts and prayers.

Mark Vandivier's father, **Guy Vandivier**, passed away about 3 PM on Thursday at a nursing home in Mooresville, NC. He had been ill for some time. He was 83.

Mark's mother lives in Ohio with Mark's sister. The body will be cremated and the remains will go to Ohio where the family will have a memorial and funeral service.

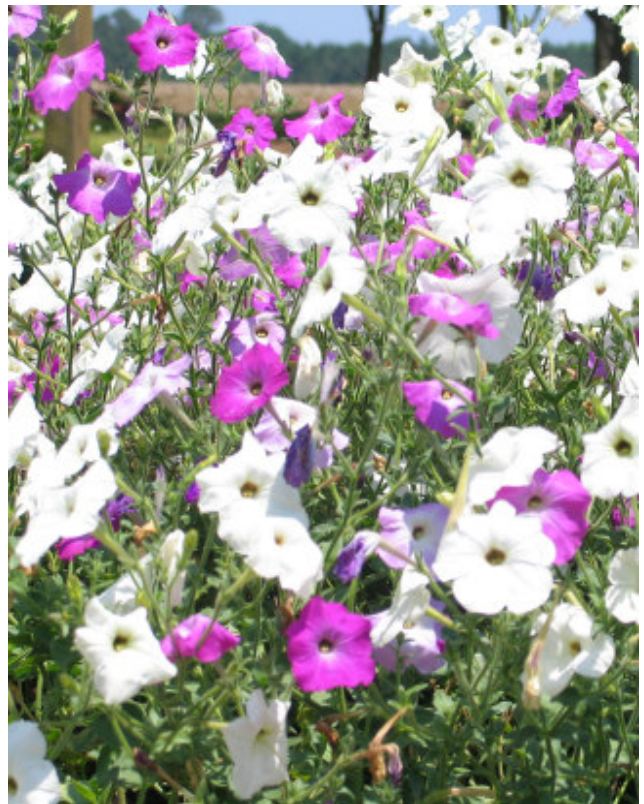
Any memorials from Mark's friends in the Scottish community should be sent to Rural Hill and designated for the Uncle Dick Scholarship Fund. If you'd like to send a card, it's Mr. & Mrs. Mark Vandivier, 914 Fieldstone Rd., Mooresville, NC 28115.

Mary Gladys Adams 1918 - 2008 Born Uckfield Sussex England,

In Loving memory of a very special Mother and Grandmother will be sadly missed but remembered for her sense of humour and lovely smile, Love you always Jean, Colin, Linda, Sandra And Grand children.

Mrs. Adams was the mother of dear friend, Colin Grant-Adams. With love to Julia & Colin.

A longtime Clan Grant member, **"Bill" William Wallace Grant**, formerly of Maryland, but residing in Edinburgh, passed away last January.

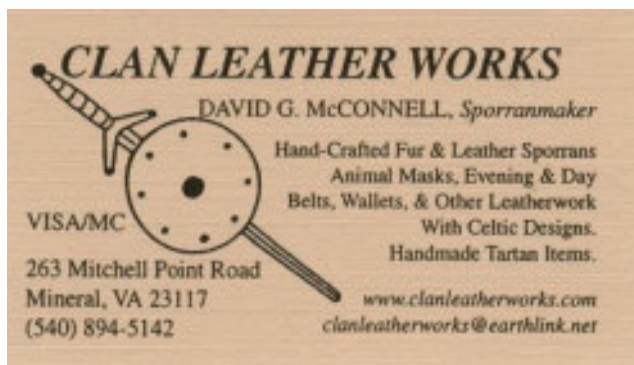


He first contacted the society at the Santa Rosa, CA, games in 1979 and joined at the Delco Games in Pennsylvania in 1982. He was a corporate lawyer, who after retiring, received his master's degree in Celtic Languages from Catholic University in Washington, DC.

He and his wife, Florence, moved to Scotland and he attended the University of Edinburgh, majoring in Celtic Languages and developing a computer program for Medieval Gaelic.

Quite "a walker," Bill set a record for the number of ascents made on Arthur's Seat recently on his 87th birthday - 350 (there is an article in the *Scotsman* newspaper) and he had gone up the week before he died.

Bill performed sermon duty at the Presbyterian Church where he and his wife attended and together they managed several other religious activities. He belonged to The Welsh Society, was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, the Pictish Aid Society, The Celtic Department of the University and, of course, the Grant Society, UK.



I am in search of the link between the **BOBO** and **SHAW** families of Fayette County, Alabama. I have many childhood memories of discussions between family members but all is not clear. My grandmother was **HASSIA SHAW WEIR** (Kennedy, Al.) and my aunt was **LELA SHAW BAILEY** (Fayette Al.) who passed away 3 years ago. Can you help me? **Cecelia Weir weir-golden@webtv.com**



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The Isle of Mull, 2005

Amelia Island wedding joins Miss Taintor and Mr. Cooke



Merial Anne Frances Taintor and Brian Crooke, both of Jacksonville Beach, were married on Friday, April 25th, on Amelia Island. Mrs. Crooke is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Jesse B. Taintor of Tallahassee. Dr. Taintor is the chaplain for the Tallahassee Highland Games and Mrs. Taintor is the director of children's activities. Mr. Crooke is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Crooke of Orange Park. After their honeymoon in Antigua, the couple will reside in Jacksonville Beach where the groom is Vice President of the Suntrust Bank and the bride is a trust officer at the Bank of New York.

Clan Home Society plans luncheon and AGM at Grandfather Mountain

Philly Holmes has arranged for all members of the Clan Home Society to gather at Nick's Restaurant and Pub for lunch at noon on Friday, July 11. The Annual General Meeting of the Clan Home Society is planned for 1:30 PM following the lunch.

Nick's Restaurant and Pub is located in the Shoppes of Tynecastle, at the intersection of Highways 105 and 184, Banner Elk, NC.

Clan Home members and friends are also invited to the New Brunswick Highland Games at the Old Government House July 25-27 in New Brunswick, Canada - where The Clan Home Society has been declared the Honored Clan.





Podcast

Check out our new video and podcast which gives you lots more information about the event and answers some of the questions you have been asking: <http://www.clangathering.org/interactive/>

Tickets

The Passport sales are going very well and we have already sold out of our Gold Passports. It is still possible however to source them through our Travel Providers: <http://www.clangathering.org/content/travel-and-accommodation.html>

If you haven't already secured your passport we would recommend that you take action in the next couple of months. Tickets to the Highland games will go on sale in the summer of 2008 so if you would rather just come along on the Saturday or Sunday to Holyrood Park these are the tickets for you.



Clans and Families

We now have over 120 clans planning to attend The Gathering 2009, 90 of which have booked a clan tent. If you are interested in booking a clan tent please click on the following link <http://www.clangathering.org/clans/content/apply-for-a-clan-tent.html>

Tour operators

If any tour operators, based worldwide, are interesting in taking an allocation of Highland Games tickets then please get in touch with Pamela at: info@thegathering2009.com or call the office on +44(0)131 561 1323.

The Gathering 2009 Ltd 27 Queen Charlotte St Edinburgh EH6 6AX
T: +44 (0)131 561 1323 E: info@thegathering2009.com W: www.thegathering2009.com



Gathering 2009 mugs, t-shirts, polos, pins, etc all went on sale at Loch Norman recently and received a very positive response.

The merchandise will be available to purchase online from June onwards so if you would like to proudly wear your Gathering 2009 t-shirt or pin, watch out for our shop going live.

Sponsorship

With all the events encompassed within The Gathering 2009 there are many fantastic opportunities for companies to get involved with sponsoring the event. Not only can you get naming writes for some events, the sponsorship packages also include fantastic corporate hospitality during the event. For more information please contact Richard Negus:

Richard@thegathering2009.com

Travels

Jamie, Jenny and Lucy-Rose had a great trip to New York for Tartan Day and even took part in the windy parade!

The Gathering 2009 co-hosted the post parade party with the American Scottish Foundation in Scotland House and had the opportunity to meet lots of people who are planning to come to The Gathering 2009.



Tom Devine and The Gathering 2009

We are delighted to announce the involvement – as historical adviser- of Professor Tom Devine to plans for the largest clan gathering ever held in Scotland. Professor Devine, a leading expert on Scottish emigration and regarded as the pre-eminent au-

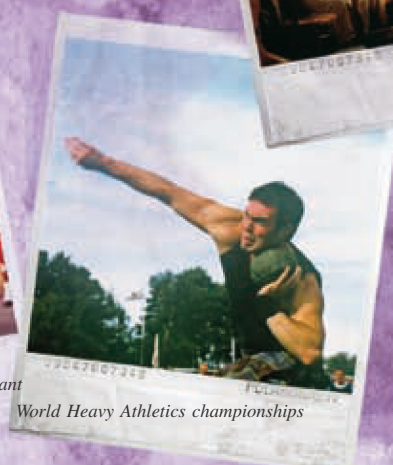
thority on the history of modern Scotland, will work closely with The Gathering 2009 to provide academic consultation and guidance throughout the planning process. For the full press release please follow the link:<http://www.clangathering.org/news/view/19>

Love Scotland? Make a date for The Gathering 2009

IF YOU'RE OF SCOTTISH DESCENT or you just love Scotland, here's your chance to take part in the greatest international gettogether in clan history. The weekend of The Gathering 2009 will be a spectacular celebration of clan culture: join us in Scotland's stunning capital city; take part in the greatest clan march ever held; watch a spellbinding historic Pageant on Edinburgh's Castle Esplanade; see some of the world's leading highland dancers and pipers, and the World Heavy Athletics championships. You will meet Chiefs and members of your own clan and lots of other fine folk; trace your Scots lineage with skilled genealogists; and enjoy the very best of Scottish cuisine, arts and crafts, traditional dance, music and song. **TO FIND OUT MORE, AND GET YOUR 'PASSPORT' TO THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE, LOG ON TO www.thegathering2009.com**



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Place Names and Genealogical Research

Bryan Mulcahy

Pinpointing the location of an ancestor's place of birth, marriage, death, or place of residence is often a challenge for researchers.

Successful research depends on the ability to determine what jurisdiction (town, county, province, state, or country) your ancestor resided in during the specific time period of interest.

Place names have genealogies just like people.

Originally, place name variations in the North American Colonies fell into three categories: 1.

Variations of famous British peers such as Georgia, Williamsburg, Jamestown; 2. Place name variations such as Plymouth, New Hampshire, New Amsterdam and New York; 3. Native American names such as Delaware, Narragansett, Ticondaroga.

Following the Revolution, towns were often named after an early settler, hometowns of first settlers, or heroes from the Revolutionary War. County names present another challenge. Some counties had one "parent county" while others had as many as three or more. Some counties were later subdivided or produced "children" counties.

Generally, records created up to the time of the split would be kept in the old or Parent County. Records created after the split would remain in the custody of the newly formed county.

Your ancestors may have lived in the same house or farm for generations, yet by virtue of multiple subdivisions of boundaries over time, they will appear in records for each county that had jurisdiction over their land at various points in time.

Because many states in America have towns and counties of the same name, you must determine which state the ancestor lived in to narrow

down your search. This factor often applies in foreign countries as well.

Counties and provinces are political subdivisions of states and countries. If your notes or compiled research mentions landmarks, or specific geographic features such as creeks, hills, rivers, roads, etc., make sure you include them with your notes. Their current boundaries will seldom match those from various historical periods. Boundary changes are a common occurrence in genealogical research.

Another challenge involves place names that are both difficult to pronounce and spell. Researchers often discover that place names in this category are often misspelled in records and other important early sources.

Two such examples that surfaced when I worked in Bainbridge, Georgia many years ago involved Nacogdoches, Texas and Natchitoches, Louisiana. The

patron bought in their Family Bible and the entry only said "Nachidoches" as the place of death.

In European research, hints about an area may be gleaned from the definition of prefixes and suffixes of a place name.

Most North American place names can be traced to Colonial European or Native American origin.

In North American place names, the influence would depend on the nationality of the settlers. Most early names would be of Spanish, Dutch, English or French origin.

There are many kinds of place-name finding aids. Those perhaps most useful are cartographic databases, gazetteers, postal guides, and place-name studies.

Bryan L. Mulcahy Reference Librarian Fort Myers-Lee County Library 2050 Central Avenue Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917 Tel: (239) 479-4651 Fax: (239) 479-4634 E-Mail: bmulcahy@leegov.com



Nebraska Games invite you!

I am a volunteer for the Midlands Celtic Festival. We are the only games in Nebraska, and the first one in many, many years. We are having our games on July 13, 2008 at Levi Carter Park, in Omaha, NE, and would love to have you join us on Clan Row. Please reply back to me if you are interested so we may send you a clan registration packet.

We have started a website at www.midlandscelticfestival.org, but it is still in progress.

We look forward to seeing you at our games, and making the first one memorable!

Sincerely, Shayna Post



Surnames DO disappear!

Did you know that only 20% of the surnames used still exist after only 13 generations. Ninety percent of all families from the 1700s are now extinguished.

In 1974, the Social Security Administration had 1,285,556 different surnames on file, of which 448,663 had only one occurrence. Over 5,000 surnames of the knighthood of the *Domesday Book* of 1086 have died out.

The email address for Australians seeking information on
Clan Thompson is
AUS@clanthompson.org

Gasoline is how much?

Rich and Rita Shader produce an always interesting publication called *Celtic Seasons*. You may subscribe by simply sending them a donation and your mailing information. Rich & Rita Shader, 2593 Chapparral Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934.

In their latest edition, they have a little article that makes us thankful for our gasoline prices in the US.

“Regular petrol is an average 110 pence per liter in the United Kingdom. Remember, it takes 3.785 liters to make an American gallon and 4.785 liters for an Imperial gallon.

If you do the math, you’ll see that one American gallon of regular gasoline would set you back \$8.33 (Exchange rate of \$2.00 = £1)

An Imperial gallon of regular would cost \$10.00.

Yikes. (The “Yikes” is mine!)

Visit the new website for the
Society of
Antiquaries of Scotland:
<http://www.socantscot.org>



Scotland's America in the 17th century...your family?

In the 17th century, Poland was described as 'Scotland's America.'

Contemporaries estimated that 15,000-40,000 Scots were settled in Poland mainly as merchants, peddlers, and craftsmen. This mass migration is largely forgotten in modern Scotland, though is remembered still in Poland.

The names of the descendants of Scots immigrants are still to be found in Polish phone books, such as Ramzy from Ramsay, or Czarnas from Chalmers. Danzig still has many Scottish street names, and villages in the hinterland are named after the Scots-Dzkoja, Skotna Gora, Szotniki or Szoty.

Genealogy & History

by

Douglas F. Kelly

from

1739 Publications

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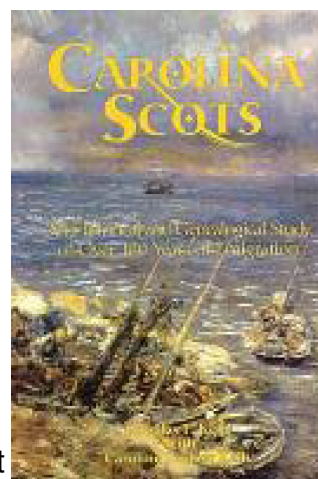
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Scots Gather at Seaside Park Ventura County Fairgrounds Hosts Sixth Seaside Highland Games

The weekend of October 11 & 12 will see Scotland in all its color and pageantry come alive on the Fairgrounds as the Seaside Highland Games return to the Pacific Coast at Ventura. The pipes—the Great Highland Bagpipes of Scotland—will signal the call to gather on that one special weekend when ALL are invited to join in the fun!

Hundreds of pipers and drummers along with all sorts of Scottish/Celtic entertainment will descend on the Ventura County Fairgrounds Saturday and Sunday, the 11th & 12th of October and the gates are open to the public from 9 am to 5 pm each day. A wonderfully entertaining weekend of music, dance, athletics, children's events, shopping, food and drink! Something for everyone and age doesn't count! Seaside is known for bringing tradition to the field—with a twist! The ageless



Scottish Highland Dancers hold forth on the AMTRAK Stage near the Main Entrance and

See the new Seaside website!

<http://www.Ventura Seaside Highland Games Home Page>

Celtic pastimes are honored but with a big nod to today. The pipes will play the tunes handed down through the ages—but don't be surprised when you hear new and modern sounds emerging from those ancient reeds!

As usual, the talent lineup is a Who's Who of Celtic Entertainment. Favorite Balladeer Alex Beaton will be sharing Center Stage with returning favorites The Browne Sisters & George Cavanaugh. Celtic Spring will delight and share an indoor stage with Golden Bough from the Northern California/Oregon region and everyone's favorite wicked ones, the Wicked Tinkers will be sounding off at the Celtic Rock Stage together with the great Scot John McLean Allan and his band Stand Easy.

AMTRAK Station, which is just steps away. More dedicated trophies and more scholarships heighten that competition. McBride Hall will be full to overflowing with Scottish Country Dancers hosting their own Ceilidh Band, Reigel, the Scottish Fiddlers of Los Angeles and the Ventura British Brass. Meanwhile, the Children's Glen will have every imaginable activity for the younger set from building blocks to athletics and fencing—yes, sword fighting—rendered safe for all to partake.

Huge Scottish Heavy Athletes of the SAAA (Scottish American Athletic Association) will show what it takes to toss the sheaf, the stones, the weights and the hammers and will demonstrate their technique at turning the caber! You can't miss them in

Continued on page 25



Lot B by the ocean and near Santa Cruz Hall.

The Seaside Highland Games is honored to be hosting TWO Clan Society annual gatherings this year—Clan Graham Society of North America and Clan Ross Association of the United States. We welcome you to the Games and to the wonderful sights and experiences of California's Central Coast!

The best ethnic food and merchandise vendors that can be found will be on the field with everything from bangers to broadswords, fish and

chips to the fèileadh beag (Scottish kilts to you)! British and American beers and ales and an opportunity to learn more about Scotland's Single Malt Whiskies in a seminar setting with tastings! Beth Gay, the Queen of Genealogists, will conduct her always enlightening seminars and Christopher Scott Wilborn will improve your Gaelic-speaking skills and an authentic Gaelic Choir will regale you!

Morgan Arena will be hopping with Sara Lisiecki's All Breed Herding Dog demonstrations, BYDAND FOREVER the Gordon Highlanders' recreators and the Haggis Toss Challenge Competition! The fine Highlander Warriors reenactors will perform adjacent to Center Stage and you will



find fiddlers, harpists and all manner of music as you wander the grounds. Enjoy the new Darts Competition hosted by Bryan Gosser and the Ventura County Dart Association as they occupy Santa Cruz Hall.

Don't miss the Opening Ceremonies and Grand Parade as they kick off at noon sharp on Saturday. Sunday morning brings a brief but meaningful Kirkin' o' the Tartans service beginning at 9:30 AM.. Pipe bands will parade periodically throughout the weekend and a colorful Closing Ceremony at 5 PM Sunday will send folks away with a hearty "Haste Ye Back" for the October 2009 Games. We hope to see you ALL in Ventura in October! Bring a cover—the Pacific breezes can be cool in the late afternoon!

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Celtic Seasons tells us all about that “Orange and Sticky and Yummy Stuff called...

Dundee Orange Marmalade!

Dundee, Scotland is celebrated in many books and journals as being the place “where marmalade was invented.”

Janet Keiller, the wife of a retired merchant, is alleged to have created the popular breakfast preserve in her shop, inadvertently laying the foundations for a successful family dynasty.

However, conflicting accounts of the rise of the Keiller’s surfaced in recent years, so, this is an alternative story of the Keiller family and possibly one that will modify the popular myth.

The Keiller operation grew from humble beginnings and the truth behind how the family actually started making their famous produce has been somewhat romanticized over the years. Popular folklore decrees that John Keiller, a retired merchant, was one day walking through the harbor area in Dundee and came across a Spanish ship which had arrived in the port to seek shelter from a storm. From this ship he is said to have bought a quantity of Seville oranges and to have taken them home to his wife who used the unfamiliar ingredients to make an orange preserve - but somewhere in the process something went amiss and she ended up with what we know today as “Dundee Marmalade.”

It is generally accepted that the Keillers went from the discovery of marmalade to a factory operation in a remarkably short time; such was the desire and profitability of this new, exotic - but still familiar - product. Recent research has unearthed the more humble beginnings and arduous rise to profitability of the Keillers - and also discovered a story beset by jealousy and commercial

fratricide.

In his book, *The Keiller Dynasty 1800-1879*, academic WM Matthew dispels the romantics’ theory and charts how the Keillers rose from a small sweet shop in the Seagate area of Dundee to exporting their product to places as far afield as Shanghai and Sydney.



Janet Keiller specialized in selling jam and pot “boilings,” with fruit picked from local farms - namely the berry fields of Blairgowrie and the Carse of Gowrie, a 26-mile stretch of rich farmland that separates Dundee from the City of Perth.

The notion that Keiller invented marmalade from scratch is rather suspect, especially as recipes for similar “pots” have been traced back to the 1500s. What is more probably is that she, an experienced maker of sweets and jam, used her existing knowledge and new

raw materials to put her own particular twist on an existing recipe and came up with the “orange chip” marmalade we know (and love) today.

Janet Keiller eventually handed over the shop to her son, James Keiller. He still relied heavily on his mother’s expertise. James married a local girl named Barbara Robertson who died in 1817. He remarried within a year, this time to a Margaret Spence, who would have a major impact on the family business.

Margaret Keiller would take control, along with her eldest son, Alex, upon her husband’s death in 1839 until her own demise in 1850. By that

Continued on page 27

time, the Keiller brand had started growing. In 1845, under the leadership of Alex Keiller, the firm moved from the Seagate, their premises for over 40 years, to Castle Street, where they occupied two buildings - a shop and a factory. This is the first major sign that the enterprise was growing at a decent rate.

Alex was an extremely hard-nosed businessman and in an attempt to maximize profits and take advantage of the favorable tax conditions, he authorized the purchase of a small property in Guernsey, Channel Islands, which capitalized on the lack of sugar duties. While this location was managed by his brother, William, it accounted for one third of the Keiller's net output, although the Guernsey stock always carried the Dundee logo.

Alex Keiller fitted the stereotype of a business tycoon, although to call him a tycoon possibly overstates his importance in the City of Dundee. In a city built around the jute and flax spinning industry, a sector that employed thousands, the Keiller's small business with 300 employees was, by comparison, fairly insignificant.

The Keillers did much for putting the City of Dundee on the national and international map, but within the city itself they were not recognized as the global brand that they were.

Alex's paranoia about rival businesses and his brother's performance in the Channel Islands would undermine their own relationship and provide a sad end to what should be a success story.

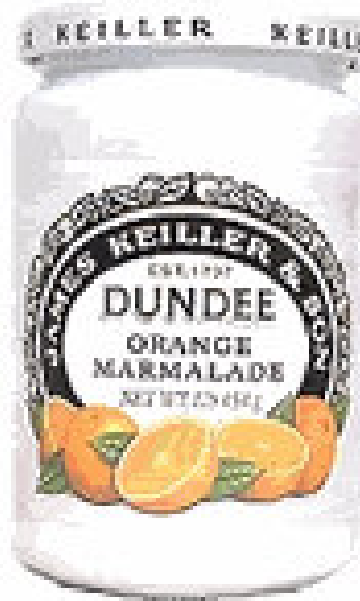
William, the appointed proprietor of the Channel Islands operation, was Alex's younger sibling and lacked the business acumen of his older brother.

Alex, often dismayed with the lack of profitability recorded in Guernsey, constantly reprimanded his brother for, on occasions, the poor quality of produce, slipups in packing which re-

sulted in destroyed goods and, his biggest source of fear, the comparative lack of profitability when placed alongside his own Dundee-based operation. The Guernsey operation, with all its foibles, lasted until 1979 before being transferred to North Woolwich and brought back under the control of the Dundee plant.

The Keiller name continued to grow and attracted outside investment well into the 20th century. They built on their humble beginnings and traded off the notion - which still exists to this day - that Janet Keiller invented marmalade.

She may not have invented it, but her version of it is one of the best tasting around!



With many thanks to *Celtic Seasons* - from the Streams of Celtic Consciousness - Rich and Rita Shader's wonderful publication that is available to everyone for a donation of any size. Write (checks to Rich Shader) 2593 Chapparral Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934. Visit Celtichighlander@msn.com

...and here's yet another story concerning the beginnings of delicious marmalade...

There is a myth that Mary Queen of Scots introduced marmalade to Scotland, but I think this is down to the infamous pun derived from marrying her name to marmelada. Mary was seasick on the journey from France to Scotland, and is supposed to have asked for "marmelade pour Marie est malade" (quince marmalade was thought to be good for settling stomachs). It is possible that Mary help popularise French food tastes within Scotland, and that a consignment of marmelada travelled with her from France, but it was already known in Scotland before her arrival.

Wind, rain... and more wind and rain & yet more...

Sumter (SC) Scottish Fair
and Celtic Festival, April 26





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and more wind and
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