



the GRYPHON

Early Autumn 2016 / Newsletter of the Clan Baird Society Worldwide, Inc.

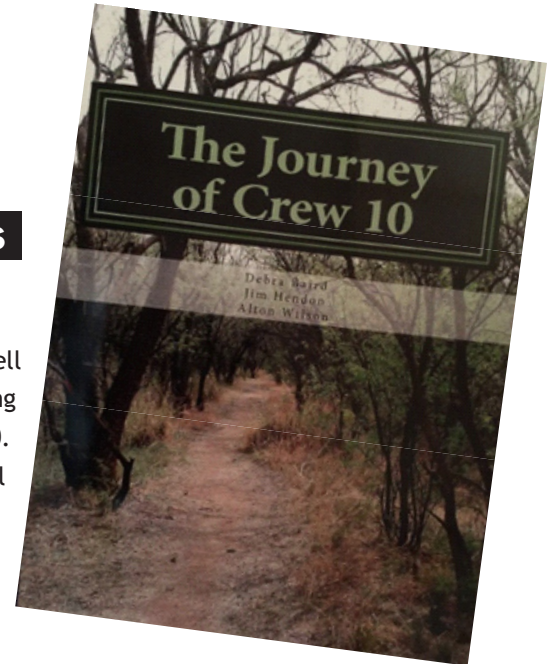
The Journey of Crew 10

A CASE STUDY OF WAR AND HUMAN CONSCIOUSNESS

Authors: Debra Baird, Jim Hendon, Alton Wilson

A new book about Tech. Sgt. Clyde L. Baird and his flight crew during World War II has been published through Saint Maurice Publishing and is available from Amazon and at most booksellers. Clyde Baird was a crew chief in the 8th Air Force, stationed at RAF Seething, Norfolk. He arrived in England in

of the U.S. War Department, as well as comments by others concerning each of the 30 missions of Crew 10. Photocopies of the original journal pages, photos of the crew, the airplanes they flew, and other war artifacts are a part of the book.



Clyde Baird on left, and crewmember, RAF Seething, Norfolk, England, January 1944

December 1943, and in fact, flew his first mission over Europe on Christmas Eve that year. He kept a journal of each mission flown by his crew on Army Air Corps paper, and this book is a comparison of his notes to the official records

Those lives proved to be difficult to take up once more, and the stories of what happened to the men make up the case study.

The book is also a case study in war, post-traumatic stress syndrome, and what happens to those involved, especially afterward, designed for use in humanities and social science college classrooms. The men of Crew 10 were together until April 1945, and then tried to begin their lives once again in the United States.

The authors are Clyde Baird's daughter, Debra, the President of Clan Baird Society; Jim Hendon, Clyde's nephew, who was also a pilot for the military and most of his life for Eastern Airlines, and Alton Wilson, Debra's husband, who is an historian and professor. The book will be available free to members in the members-only area of the newly revamped www.clanbairdsociety.com website. That new material will be coming online by September 30th. The User ID and password information will be sent out to the membership as soon as the newly minted pages go live.





Ceud Mìle Fàilte!

(100,000 Welcomes)

*We welcome to our
Clan the following:*

Janice Rose Baird Armstrong

Ian George Baird

Kurt Baird

David Charles Benfell

Patricia Jean Benfell

Darcelle Heine Carlson

Colin Glen Chaddock

Laura Lynn Baird Gatson

Krystal Mae Green

Melissa Lee Johnson

William Harold Price

Robbie Baird Ryder

Sarah Wood



CLAN BAIRD *Best of the Best* Preliminary Marmalade Contest

Get out your spoons and jars, and begin working on your best marmalade of the year! The Dalemmain Marmalade Festival has added a “A Stirring of the Clans” category for their worldwide charitable contest.

Clan Baird Society plans to enter the best of the best in 2017.

If you have questions, please call Debra Baird at 205-454-6852 in the U.S. or add the correct numbers if outside the USA.

The website for the worldwide contest, www.dalemmainmarmaladeawards.co.uk



The top winner's two extra jars will be posted to Dalemmain Mansion on Monday, January 16th, and all entry fees will be paid by the Clan Baird Society, on the winner's behalf. All monies sent to the contest go to charity in northern England and Scotland.

We look forward to tasting your entries! What a great job that will be!

Not a Baird- But Still Part of the Family

- submitted by Jim Baird-

On August 25, 2016, the United States celebrated the 100th anniversary of the NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM. On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the legislation establishing the greatest public park system in the world. There were celebratory events scheduled at a number of park venues across the country, but one special one was held at the Abraham Lincoln Museum in Springfield, Illinois.

On the very same day, August 25, 1916, in Rochester, New York, a baby girl was born to Agata and Zopito Palma, recent immigrants from Penne, Abruzzi, Italy. She was the fourth child of a family that would ultimately grow to six girls and two boys, and she was named “Grace”.

As the years passed, the children grew, and the older ones married and left the house. Sadly, Agata died at an early age, and Grace, at 15, and then the oldest girl in the house, became the surrogate mother to her three younger siblings still at home.

She did a great job, and soon finished high school at nights, and was able to find a job. One summer day, while sweeping the sidewalk, she met Mario Baliva, a young man from Springfield, Illinois who was visiting relatives in Rochester. The story of their meeting and ongoing relationship for a few summer visits is one of its own, and she tells it with much joy.

Continued on page 6





Message from the President

Greetings from Clan Baird President

Greetings members! It has been a busy summer for Clan Baird Society Worldwide

The long hot and humid summer in Alabama has caused more dreams of the wonderful summer weather in Scotland, and the summer dim lighting summer nights in the Highlands. Oh to be in Scotland now that summer is here!

The Society has been busy this summer. Michael Baird sponsored a tent at the Central New York games, George Baird Snyder, Karen Baird, and Nicholas and Krystal Green made sure we were represented at the Kansas City Highland Games, while Autry and Elsie Steilling were busy at Skaget Valley Highland Games in Washington State. Hans Burlingame Bard, and Randall and Bonnie Bard, did a great job with the Alma, Michigan games. Many thanks to John Covell and Wrex Diem for the pictures. Stone Mountain, Georgia will be in October; Cheryl and Henry Baird are ready to put up an outstanding tent there.

We have gained several new members this summer, a very welcome circumstance indeed. It is through the membership that we are able to participate in so many games, and be fully participating members in so many parts of the world.

Challenge for each one to sign one

We want to begin a membership drive now for January 2017. I ask each member to recruit one more member. In this way, we can double our membership and each person will only have to talk to one more person concerning joining (that is, if they join).

We are also completing a revamped website and the membership only area will be fully functional. An email will be sent to each of you with the log-in information when the new site goes live. The log-in domain will remain the same, so if you type in clanbairdsociety.com you will still get our website. We believe this will make the transition seamless and you will always be able to get to our site.

May you have a prosperous and successful fall, and a happy beginning of the holiday season as well as winter fun. Please remember the membership challenge drive! Each-One-Sign-One.

Your Servant,
Debra



Bethany Scott and Jim Gallagher attended the Long Island Scottish Games, New York, and one of our youngest Baird's was also in attendance in her tartan. Genie Gallagher is shown in the picture with her very fine tartan showing boldly. She is the daughter of Bethany and Jim, and a grand day was had by all.

Skaget Valley Highland Games July 9 & 10, 2016

After eight years of not having the Clan Baird tent at the Skaget Valley Highland Games, Art and Elsie Steilling members of Clan Baird set out to try and start a new branch of the clan in the Northwest. The Skaget Highland Games has an attendance of about 12,000 people. We had over 200 people come to the tent to

check us out and had received four new member applications at the tent, and possibly two new members by mail. The games were very enjoyable and all had a good time. The games are put on by The Celtic Arts Foundation of Mount Vernon, Washington (state); who were very welcoming and helped us a great deal.





Israel in Scotland: *The Legacy of Scottish Jews*

- Submitted by Isaac Baird -

In 2005, the Scottish historian and literary critic, David Daiches, passed away at the age of 92. He left behind a score of books covering literary criticism and history of Sir Walter Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson, Robert Burns, and Bonnie Prince Charlie. He also wrote an autobiography that captured the life of the prominent Scot, born and raised in Edinburgh, who taught at Cambridge and Oxford. The book, *Between Two Worlds: An Edinburgh Jewish Childhood* recounts a unique Scottish experience, the Jewish Scot experience. Daiches, the son of the Orthodox Rabbi Salis Daiches, would later be credited with "reviving Sir Walter Scott" and opening the world to Scottish Jews.

Scotland, described as the first multicultural society by some academics, consists of a mixture of cultures that create Scottish Identity. Historically, Scotland was a combination of Norse settlers, Gaelic Highland inhabitants, Anglo-speaking Lowlanders, French and Flemish immigrants. In modern times, Scotland includes cultures as diverse as Chinese, Indian, Pakistani, Irish, Polish, and many others. For the Scottish Diaspora, the numerous experiences of Scottish immigrants expand Scottish Culture and tradition beyond the simple Hollywood tropes of Tartanry.

Although a steady stream of Victorian historical revisionism, and modern Hollywood stereotypes, obscures the multicultural background of Scotland, these varied cultures form the Scottish and Scottish Diaspora experience. Investigating these cultures and how they fit in with the larger multicultural Scotland can inform us about the Scottish experience. By understanding the Scottish and Scottish Diaspora experience, we can gain insights to Baird traditions and heritage.

Of all of the Scottish experiences, one of the most fascinating, yet least studied, is that of the Scottish Jews. Despite

being a small community, Scotland gains immensely from her Jewish sons and daughters. The Jewish community is an historical community of Scotland, that shares and advances Scottish history and traditions, and continues to enhance Scottish and Scottish Diaspora culture in modern times.

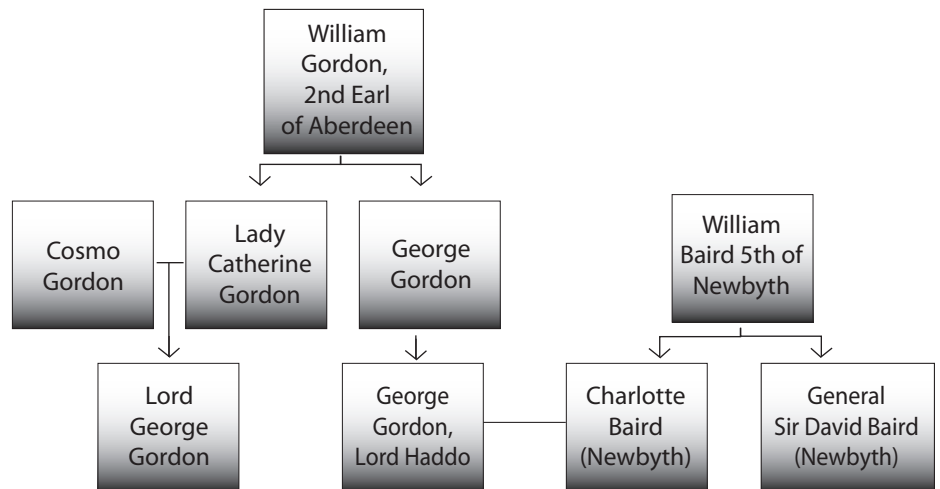
Scottish Jews are a community with ancient ties to Scotland. Although it is unknown when the first Jews migrated to Scotland, historical records show Jewish immigration to have occurred before the 13th century. However, the historical documentation for an early Jewish presence in Scotland is sparse. The lack of early Jewish history in Scotland can be attributed to the fact that academic studies of Jewish History in the UK has focused typically on England only.

Another reason may be that Scotland did not show the same hostility toward the Jewish people as the rest of Europe, which resulted in fewer mentions in the historical record. This is not to dimin-

the eyes of God "there is neither weighing nor distinction of Jew and Greek, Scotsman or Englishman..."

Despite this, there does not appear to be a significant Jewish presence in Scotland until the 1700's. This doesn't mean that Jews did not live in Scotland during this time. Records exist showing the Scottish monarchy and clergy engaging in business with Jewish financiers. Prior to the 1700's, Scottish Universities maintained several language professors, particularly in the Hebrew language, that are considered by some modern historians to be of Jewish descent or recent Jewish converts. The first recorded Scottish Jew for whom we have a name is in Edinburgh in 1691 when David Brown applied to reside and trade in the city. Initially, he faced resistance but was defended by Hugh Blair, treasurer of the town council, who argued that Jewish Scots were "the ancient people of God and the seed of Abraham... to them belongs the promise." The town council agreed with Blair, and allowed David Brown to trade in the city.

Elsewhere in Scotland, Jewish students were found attending Scottish Universities between 1691 -1824 for medicine. Scottish Universities attracted these students as they did not require religious oaths.



ish anti-Semitism in Scotland during the medieval ages or modern times, but rather to note that it may not have been as extreme as seen in England. For example, Scotland never passed an expulsion act (as in England), and the Declaration of Arbroath noted that in

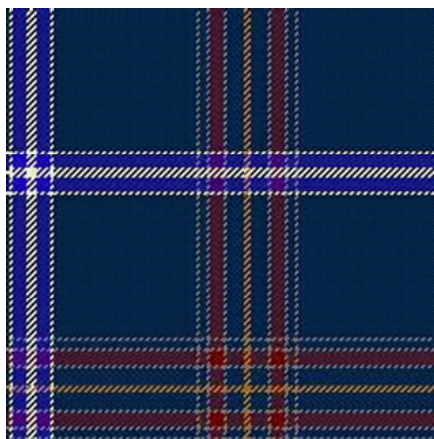
Several famous Scottish Jews began to emerge during this time. One in particular, a convert to Judaism, was Lord George Gordon. He was the youngest son of Cosmo Gordon, 3rd Duke of Gordon. Cosmo Gordon was also the Earl of Huntly, whose ancestors had brought



the Bairds to Auchmedden. The Duke's nephew, George Gordon, known as Lord Haddo, married Charlotte Baird, the sister of General Sir David Baird, Bt. Lord Haddo's grandfather, George Gordon, 2nd Earl of Aberdeen, had purchased Auchmedden from the Bairds in 1750. When Lord Haddo brought his wife to Auchmedden in 1782, the famed eagles of Pennan returned. Shortly thereafter, at 27, Lord Haddo died in a fall from a horse and the eagles left.

In 1774, Lord George Gordon attempted to run for Parliament for Inverness-shire. He was opposed by General Fraser, the 19th Chief of the Clan Fraser, who raised the 71st Highlander regiment that Sir James Baird of Saughton-hall served during the American War of Independence. Fraser, attempting to buy the election, purchased a pocket borough of Ludgershall for Lord George Gordon. Pocket boroughs were small constituencies who could be controlled by a wealthy patron by evicting any man who didn't vote the way of the owner. (Secret Ballot did not come about until 1872 and these boroughs were abolished in 1867. Ludgershall had less than 550 people in 1810.) The thought was to neutralize the potential Gordon power by bribing him with an office. In addition, Lord George, at 22, was considered a political lightweight. When Lord George assumed office, he became the opposite of the expectations. He supported the American cause of Independence and rejected any military involvement in the war.

He converted to Judaism in 1787 and became extremely pious. However, he was charged with insulting Marie Antoinette and fled the country. In 1788, he



was forced back to England and sent to prison for five years. His time in prison was remarkable for his religious observance of halakha (Jewish Law) and was permitted to keep kashrut (Dietary law) as well as affixing a mezuzah on his cell door. When his prison term ended, he entered the court. He refused to remove his Kippah, or head covering, and when forced, he pulled a night cap on to cover his head. The court, furious at this, remanded him to his cell where he contracted typhoid and died.

The Scottish Jewish Community continued to grow. In 1795, the first Jewish burial plot was purchased. In 1816, the first Jewish congregation, in Edinburgh, was founded. Aberdeen would establish a congregation in 1893.

Scotland again became a haven for immigrants fleeing Europe. The immigrants moved into the larger cities, such



The Jewish Lads and Girls Brigade Pipe Band leading the annual Jewish ex-servicemen's parade, Armistice Day, 2007 Scotland's Jews Scottish Council of Jewish Communities http://www.scojec.org/resources/files/scotlands_jews.pdf

as the poorer part of Glasgow city call the Gorbals. More immigrants came in during the 20th century prior to the end of World War II. During the early 20th century, a Rabbi named Salis Daiches, from Edinburgh, began to vacation in highlands of Scotland, reciting Scottish poetry in Hebrew, and keeping the Jewish Sabbath. It was on these trips that he came across a Jewish tailor that spoke no English and could only communicate in Gaelic and Yiddish.

His son, David Daiches, would document a unique form of Scottish-Yiddish found amongst the Jewish community in Edinburgh. In the 2001 census, 6,448 Jews

lived in Scotland. Most live in Glasgow, although congregations and community can be found throughout Scotland including in the highlands. In 2008, Rabbi Mendel Jacobs certified the first Jewish tartan through the Scottish Tartans Authority. The colors of the tartan, represent the Jewish experience in Scotland. The white and blue, represent the Israeli and Scottish Flags. The gold thread represents the gold found in the Tabernacle, the Ark of the Covenant, and the ceremonial vessels. The silver stands for the decoration adorning Torah scrolls and the red represent the wine used for Kiddush. The tartan and kilt are kosher and made from 100% wool without any linen.

Scottish Jews, and Scots of Jewish descent continue to contribute to Scotland and the Scottish Diaspora experience.

The Jewish Lad and Girls Brigade of Glasgow, founded in 1903, still maintains the world's only Jewish bagpipe band.

Recently the Movie, "The Eagle" starring Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell, which was shot partly in Scotland and features the Gaelic language, was directed by Kevin Macdonald, a Scot of Jewish descent whose brother produced "Trainspotting". Marc Knopfler, of Dire Straits, scored and produced the music for the movie "Local Hero" that featured the Town of Pennan in Auchmedden. He is also of Jewish descent. Isla Fisher, born to Scottish parents and who appeared in the hit TV series "Arrested Development" in a kilt with the Los Angeles Scottish folk band Wicked Tinkers, self identifies as an observant Jew. Scottish Jews remain prominent in business, politics, and academics as well as the arts.

Jewish Bairds have also influenced the Scottish Diaspora experience. Carol Davidson Baird, a well-known and respected Jewish genealogist, as well as past president of both the San Diego Jewish Genealogical Society and the North San Diego Genealogy Society aided many genealogists. She has dedicated her time to both Jewish and non-Jewish

Continued on page 6

Not a Baird Continued from page 2

However, as you have most likely figured out by now, they married and Grace moved to Springfield, where Mario was working, and they raised their own family of three girls and one boy.

That's how Grace, now 100, got to Springfield. Sadly Mario passed away 25 years ago, but Grace still lives in the house where she and Mario lived and raised their family. She still passes her Illinois driving test every year, (both written and road), goes to water aerobics three times a week, and acts and looks like someone about 70.

When the National Park System announced they were going to have a 100th Year celebration on August 25th, one of the family recognized the date, and got in touch with the Lincoln Museum, and shared the details of the concurrent "birthdays". This led to an interview with the Museum and the local newspapers, which ultimately led to her being included in the ceremonies. Together with the Governor of Illinois, the Senator from Illinois, the local Congressman, and the Mayor of Springfield, Grace cut the cake, and shared the day in a wonderful way.

The family also had two big parties to celebrate Grace's 100th, and friends and relatives came from all over the country, (including Carol and I from upstate New York). A truly magnificent celebration for a wonderful lady.

How a Baird ?? Well Grace Palma Baliva, is my wife's aunt, her mother's younger sister. Agreed, being a part of the "Baird family" is a bit of a stretch, but I choose to look at it a bit differently.

My parents and older brother were immigrants from Barrhead, Scotland in the early 1930s, and I was born a couple of years later. We, like the Palmas, and millions of other immigrants

- Scots, Irish, Italian, German, etc. all became one big family.

As the generations pass, we are less likely to identify with different nationalities, and often get a reply to a question of heritage similar to "I'm a little Irish, English, German and some others". We truly are becoming "American", and one big family.

Israel in Scotland from page 5

genealogists, with her lectures, classes, and numerous publications. Zoë Baird named as the United States Attorney General nominee in 1993 and a member of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (1994-2000) was also of Jewish descent. She became the CEO and president of the Markle Foundation, a nonprofit charitable organization concerned with technology, health care, and national security while heralding the unique organization and their initiatives into the internet age. Her son, Julian Baird Gerwitz, is a Rhodes Scholar, and poet, at Oxford with a PhD in modern Chinese history. Rabbi Justus N. Baird, son of the late Clan Baird Society Quartermaster, Justus Baird, is the director of Center for Multifaith Education at Auburn Theological Seminary in New York City. Jewish Bairds have contributed in Science and Medicine including Dr. Stephen Baird, the former Director of Pathology at UC San Diego and Professor Emeritus of Pathology at University of California - San Diego (UCSD).

With the approach of the Jewish High Holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, Bairds everywhere should give a moment's pause to the lengthy contribution of Scottish Jews to Scotland and the Scottish Experience. Bairds should recognize the role of Scottish Jews in Scottish History and in our own Baird traditions.



Flowers of the Forest



Margaret Baird Birk, 88, of Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin passed away Monday, June 13, 2016, at home surrounded by her family.

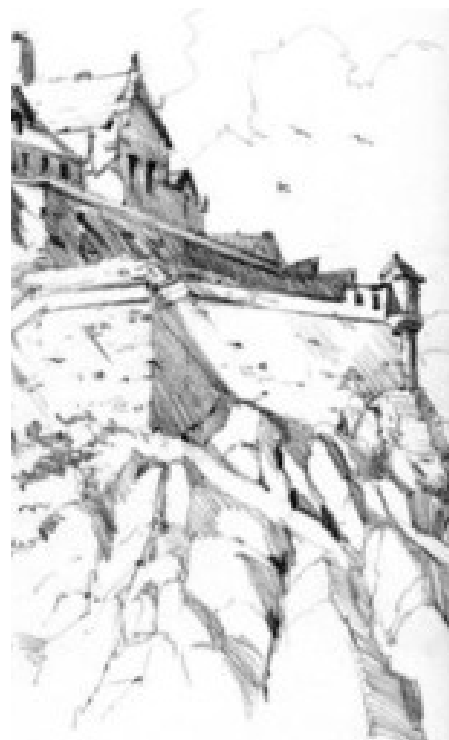
Margaret spent many years working with Clan Baird Society Worldwide, both in Wisconsin and nationally. She served as tent hostess at festivals, and as state representative to the Society.





Dualchas

CULTURE · TRADITION · INHERITANCE



Hi! I'm Erin Park, and in this space I will be talking a little bit about Gaelic, Highland, and Scottish culture and history. Feel free to send me any suggestions that you would like to see covered!

Summers have, in the past, been full of sweltering hot days, lots of highland dance competitions, and I'll admit, catching up on sleep. Summer 2016 was different. It was my first summer spent in Scotland and my first summer working close to full time. I was thrilled to be working my first "real" internship as a project assistant at the University of Glasgow. Working on two separate projects in the English Language department, I got to participate in research process, starting (almost) at the ground level. The first project I worked on is called the Scottish Syntax Atlas. The goal was to map out the many dialects of Scottish English, looking all over Scotland, and focusing mainly on syntax, which encompasses sentence structure and grammar. The finished product will be a series of academic papers and an interactive website, but at this stage it was a series of questionnaires, asking research subjects to rate how often they would use certain sentence structures, and recordings of natural conversational interviews. My job was mainly transcribing the conversational interviews: writing down exactly what was said, down to starts and stops and meaningful sounds (like "nuh uh").

The other project that I worked on is called One Speaker Two Dialects, and focuses on the town of Buckie in North-east Scotland. This area, near Aberdeen, has an accent similar to "Doric," a very distinctive Scots dialect. One of its classic features is "lounes" and "quines" for "lads" and "lasses." Rather than trying to map out the dialect, this project looks at how language varies depending on the social context (specifically when talking to community insiders/outside) and how young children acquire language features. For this project I was involved in a wide range of tasks, particularly in creating databases and graphs that showed the percentages of the standard English/Scots features used across different age groups or contexts. I also helped with general research queries and got to participate in the presentation of research side of the process. In conclusion, I got the inside view of how linguistic research is conducted and was able to contribute, albeit in a small way, to our understanding of Scottish language. Plus I never had to buy sunscreen!



Clan Baird Society Worldwide Financial Statement

Second Quarter 2016
April 1 through June 30, 2016

Income:	
Dues Received	275.00
Misc Income	
Donations	
Quartermaster Sales	

Total Quarterly Income: 275.00

Expense:	
Advertising	195.00
President-Membership	
Vice President	
Scholarship	500.00
Secretary	
Genealogy	
Gryphon	916.50
Games	
Awards, Trophies & Donations	
Miscellaneous - PayPal fees	3.04

Total Quarterly Expense: 1,614.54

Net Income or (Loss) for Quarter: (1,339.54)

Cash in Bank - Last Quarter: 8,187.33

Cash in Bank/Available Funds: 6,847.79

Submitted by:
Robert G. Beard, Treasurer for Clan Baird Society Worldwide



Clan Baird Officers & Staff

President Dr. Debra June Baird
djbaired4@gmail.com
205-454-6852

1st Vice-President James D. Baird
jimbaired45@gmail.com
315-382-1702

2nd Vice-President Isaac S. Baird
iandsbaired@gmail.com
801-243-4077

2nd Vice-President Miller S. Baird
msbdu@earthlink.net
303-332-3122

Secretary Jane Baird Elliott
jelliottreporter@gmail.com
205-746-6689

Treasurer Robert G. Beard, Jr.
beardrobert@msn.com
813-963-0251

Website Developer Linda Gee
webdeveloper@clanbairedsociety.com
248-477-8345

Gryphon Editor Heather Snyder
gryphon@clanbairedsociety.com
802-485-5541



Newsletter Deadlines

Autumn 2016 Issue
deadline is October 15th

Winter 2017 Issue
deadline is January 15th

Spring 2017 Issue
deadline is April 15th

Summer 2017 Issue
deadline is June 15th

Please submit newsletter articles to:

Heather Snyder at
gryphon@clanbairedsociety.com
hsnyder65@yahoo.com

or mail to:

Heather Snyder
63 Northview Dr.
Northfield, VT 05663

Electronic file formats accepted are
Microsoft Word documents
Adobe Acrobat. Any photo images,
JPG, TIFF, GIF

**Any questions about *The Gryphon*
submissions please feel
free to call Heather
at 802-485-5541**



Where you can find us

Finding Your Family Roots

We have other of Clan Baird Society
who are very knowledgeable in the
history of Baird. Please email
info@clanbairedsociety.com
for more information.

**Check out our website!
clanbairedsociety.com**

