

# Clan Thompson Society Newsletter

Fall 2009

# VERITAS

## HAPPY FALL, YA'LL!

Well, 2009 is almost gone and it's time to list our accomplishments and finalize our plans for 2010. I think the Annual General Membership (AGM) meeting was the most important event of the year. We elected Harold Bennett, Barbara Moore and yours truly for 3-year terms, adopted a resolution to petition Lyon Court for corporate arms, and tabled a motion for the 2010 AGM location, and we elected Fred Cash as this year's Grand Poo-Baa. \* Noteworthy - out of 68 clans at the Glasgow Highland Games this year, we were selected as BEST CLAN TENT and got a nice plaque for it.

### GAMES REVIEW:

- Duke started off the year hosting tents at the Mid-Florida and Jacksonville, FL Games,
- Jim Reed hosted tents at Edinboro, Carlisle, and Bethlehem, PA and represented us at the Harrisburg St Andrews Dinner.
- A group of us were at Glasgow, KY and Allan and Heidi set up at Eminence, Ky (they got a small bottle of Scotch, cookies and a \$25 gift certificate from The Scottish Trading Company for winning best clan tent!
- In Colorado, the Thompson triumvirate of Booner, Michael and Parker sponsored tents at Estes Park and Highland Ranch.
- Fred, Allan and Harold jumped in to man the tent at Columbus, IN while
- Deb Montague represented us at the St. Andrews Society Games in IL and another in Iowa - (she lost her tent in an Iowa storm, but Clan Wallace graciously shared their tent with her - cudos, Clan Wallace!)

### AND:

Thirteen members got together in TN to spend the day with our Australian Representative, Ern, and his wife, Cheryl, during a brief stopover on their round-the-world trip. No, honestly — round the world! When they were going to go to Ireland, Scotland and the US, it was cheaper to book additional countries through the travel agent and go all over than it was to do a few countries and head back home! Wow.....wish I could have fit into a suitcase..... We had a great time with them and we had a house full of fun, jokes, tales and



laughter. What else would you expect?? Some members stayed over and we had a late breakfast before the Bennett and Cash families headed north for the Columbus, IN games and the others headed back home. For commissioners and members who do see each other at games - why not schedule your OWN get-together and keep the family (clan) spirit going during the non-game months? It doesn't have to be expensive and could be something as easy as meeting at one home for a meal and a visit!

## **DISCOVER CLAN THOM(P)SON:**

This is our theme for 2010. Wear your Clan Thompson buttons, hats, shirts, etc. And get out to games and other events in your area. We are facing an uphill battle for recognition and have several clan working against us because they are afraid we will siphon off their Thom(p)sons. There is no reason for their concerns and we have assured Lord Lyon of the same, but they are older clans with more inroads into the Scottish clan society than we ..... so we have to re-double our efforts to make sure people know about us and what we are trying to do! A number of you have come up with advertising gimmicks on your own and we appreciate it. Don't forget to search on Clan Thompson at zazzle.com to see the items you can order -- maybe for Christmas?? The clan receives a 10-15% profit on all items ordered, so it helps our bottom line! Also, all items are customisable - you can change types, colors, sizes, etc.....

**The commissioners are tentatively scheduling the following games for 2010. Check the forum for changes and additions.**

**January**—Duke, assisted by Fred and Babs, will be at the Mid-Florida Games, Orlando. Our Clan Bard, John Thomson, hopes to be available to sign his new book of drawings and poems. (We get a small commission so this is your chance to get a good book and help the Society at the same time! Hopefully, we will be able to advertise it for him on our website).

**January 23<sup>rd</sup>** - Plan on joining Jim Reed at the Robert Burns Dinner, Harrisburg, Radisson Convention Hall. You can contact him at [jim\\_reed@clanthompson.org](mailto:jim_reed@clanthompson.org)

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>** -- Kirkin' 'o' the Tartans, Harrisburg, Pine St. Presbyterian Church

**May 8<sup>th</sup>** - Frederick, MD Celtic Festival.

**May 31** - Glasgow, KY Highland Games.

**June** - Oakbrook IL, St. Andrews Scottish Games.

- Bristol PA Celtic Day.

**July** - Highland Park, IL Festival.

- Horsham PA Celtic Heritage Festival.

- Edinboro PA Highland Games and Scottish Festival.

**August** - Quad Cities IL and Iowa Games.

- Highland Ranch CO Games.

- Fox burg PA Annual Scottish Festival.

**September** - Columbus IN Highland Games.

- Carlisle PA McLain Games.

- Greenland PA Scottish and Irish Festival.



- Bethlehem PA Celtic Games.
- Estes Park CO
- Eminence KY Games
- Wisconsin Games ???
- Loon Mountain Games ????

## IN OTHER NEWS FOR 2010:

I sent Lord Lyon a letter outlining our AGM resolution and informing him that we would be submitting a Petition for Arms at an unspecified date. All of you should have received instructions to access the restricted MEMBERS ONLY pages that cover this at (<http://www.clanthompson.org/lyon docs.html>). All of my letters to Lord Lyon and his replies are posted there. If anyone hasn't received their login information/password, let us know!

Everybody put on your thinking cap and help us decide on a location for our next AGM. I have two motions so far: Glasgow, KY and Columbus, IN. -- Discussion: Booner; "While I like Glasgow, I wouldn't mind a new location. Considering the economy, it should be somewhere close to the geographic center of our membership so we can have maximum participation. It would be nice to move our AGM around and Columbus would be a good starting point". Deb; "Given the cost of gas needs to be factored into any location. Most of us seem to be between the Appalachian Mts and the Mississippi north of GA and south of Lake Michigan. Either Glasgow or Columbus would work. Another thought is that picking a new location means someone has to do all the leg work; hotels, restraints, activities, meeting room, etc. It's a lot of work."

**EVERYONE** send in your vote or comments by email to [tomaryfarm@yahoo.com](mailto:tomaryfarm@yahoo.com). Results will be in the next newsletter! Renew your Membership!!!

The major event at our AGM will be voting for (3) directors and the society Vice President and Secretary. To date, I have the following nominations:

Fred Cash	Director and Vice President	3 year term (incumbent)
Mary Thompson	Director and Secretary	3 year term (incumbent)
Thomas Thompson, IN	Director at Large	3 year term (incumbent)

Any society member in good standing can be nominated to run for the above positions. If you are interested, you may nominate yourself or another member. A second will not be required. I urge you to throw your hat into the ring. We need new ideas and leadership -- please become involved. Three of our current Directors are Long of tooth (senior citizens), I have had two strokes and I know of at least one other who has had a stroke. I take great pride in the younger members who have volunteered to be commissioners, but the fact remains we need to get some younger people in the leadership positions for training if for no other reason.

I am open to any motions you think the membership at large should consider. Reply to this email with your thoughts or concerns and the best time to contact you. I will call you and we will finalize a motion, solicit a second and, if seconded, submit it to the membership.

*Contributed by the Clan Bard, John Thomson*

## **The Scottish Goddess**

John Thomson, December 31st, 2005



The Scottish Goddess  
has arisen,  
to steal men's hearts,  
their souls to prison  
With a lilt - and a laugh,  
why a smile is sufficient  
to capture our love,  
our minds made deficient.

With glorious eyes  
that flash and  
emblazon  
a promise  
of love,  
of intrigue -  
- amazing,  
"Mmm",

little purr points  
are uttered to quieten  
our stuttering heart beats  
for her to enlighten.

As female as Eve  
No poet can capture  
that essence so pure  
What beautiful rapture.

The Scottish Goddess has arisen  
poetic license has 'gone a missin'  
For we cannot string the verse to hail  
incomparable beauty, our words to fail!

HAPPY  
THANKSGIVING!