

THE FIERY CROSS



Official Newsletter For Clan Am Cu

FEBRUARY 2004

THE LATEST NEWS

LATEST FROM THE WEB

The *Clan Am Cu* has been updated, with new pictures & other information. Each of you is encouraged to visit our website at www.geocities.com/clanamcu/homepage.html. If you have not visited lately, there are **Pictures** from the fall campaign against London. Pictures for most of our clansmen have also been updated in the **Roster** page.



Clan Am Cu forms for inspection with other units of the Army of King James during the March to London [those are our brothers from Clan Donnachaidh (the Robertsons) to our right]. Though our clan had to travel over 900 miles to reach the event, Clan Am Cu was the largest clan in attendance, with 10 men & one camp follower. The March to London was held on August 30-31 2003. It will be held in mid-September.

TARGES FOR SALE

Larry "Lone Dog" Lynch has three targes for sale, for any of you who might be in the market. His asking price will be about \$80. "Lone Dog" does quality work. This is quite a deal.

Uaireigin Cu, Doannon Cu

CLAN AM CU INVITED TO GLASGOW

Editor's Note: The following invitation was extended to Clan Am Cu on January 25, 2004. On the website for the Army of King James, we are listed as Clan Am Cu - The Atholl Brigade, hence the name on the invitation.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the 2004 Glasgow Highland Games, I would like to cordially extend an invitation to the Atholl Brigade to participate at our first annual 18th Century Encampment and Living History Display on the weekend of June 4th - 6th 2004.

This will be our first year to formally organize a living history encampment and set up displays for the public to share and educate them on the many aspects of 18th history, which was predominated by emigrants from Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England and Brittany.

Key aspects of the games, which may impact your decision to attend the year's games, include:

- An average of 10,000 visitors daily on both Saturday and Sunday.
- Access to the actual Games as well as the musical venues held on the games fields during the course of the weekend.
- A well populated merchant's row with approximately 35-40 Highland Vendors.
- A small, but growing list of 18th century Suttler's who have attended last year's games and plan on returning.
- An excellent opportunity to teach the public about American History and our hobby.
- Gain new recruits for your Unit or Group.

Amenities & Activities will include:

- An 18th century row and field for displays and activities.
- A reenactor's encampment with nearby modern rest facilities.
- An Axe throwing competition with a men, women & children's category.
- A possible flintlock shooting competition which may include a woodswalk/shoot.

Units, individuals and sutler's who would like more information or to make reservations should contact myself, preferably by 23 April and no later than 14 May 2004.

Slainte,

Martin J Hickey
Reenactor Coordinator
GHG 2004

UPCOMING EVENTS

Landing of General Oglethorpe. February 13, 2004. Fort King George



Frederica Festival. February 14, 2004. Fort Frederica.



Scottish Heritage Days. March 27, 2004. Fort King George. Battle of Bloody Marsh



Coastal Heritage Week. March 30-April 3, 2004. FLETC, Brunswick, Georgia.

Culloden Highland Games. April, 2004. Culloden, Georgia. Sword & musket drills?



Indian Springs Scottish Festival. June, 2004. Indian Springs, Georgia.

Highlander School of the Soldier. July, 2004? Fort King George.



March On London. September, 2004. Bedford, Pennsylvania.



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FREDERICA FESTIVAL
 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
 February 14, 2004

Special Demonstrations:

- 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Soldier Kids Recruitment & Drill
 Jason Baker, Ft. Morris GA DNR
- 11:00 am - 3:00 pm Colonial Children's Games
 Marshes of Glynn Unit Girl Scouts of America
- 11:00 am - 2:00 pm Archeology Education Exhibit
 Anne Langford, Glynn County School System
- 1:00 pm 4th of April Dance
 Toni Tennent / St. Francis Xavier Students

Music:

- 11:30, 1:00, & 3:30 Bagpiper, Kenneth Bloom
- 1 pm to 3:00 pm Stewart-Law Baroque Ensemble Trio

Special Interpretive Programs:

- 10:45 am Cannon & Musket Firing @ program area
- 11:00 am Fort Tour w/ the Connors @ town gate
- 11:15 am Cannon & Musket Firing
- 11:30 am Bagpiper, Kenneth Bloom
- 12:00 noon Jud Conner Booksigning (museum area)
Muskets, Knives, & Bloody Marshes
- 12:00 noon Colonial Craftsmen Presentation
- 12:30 pm Cannon & Musket Firing Demonstration
- 1:00 pm Bagpiper, Kenneth Bloom
- 1:30 pm Fort Tour w/ the Connors @ town gate
- 2:00 pm Cannon & Musket Firing Demonstration
- 2:30 pm Colonial Craftsmen Presentation
- 3:00 pm Cannon & Musket Firing
- 3:30 pm Light the Lime Kiln, Bagpiping

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

BLOODY SCOTS WHODUNIT IS 'SOLVED' BY US ACADEMIC

By Elizabeth McMeekin, *Sunday Herald*, 25 January 2004

Submitted by Collin King

A 20-year investigation into the Scottish murder mystery, which has become one of the country's most shocking episodes and inspired **Robert Louis Stevenson's** *Kidnapped*, has cleared the Jacobite hanged for the crime. The results of the investigation by the late **Dr. Lee Holcombe**, an emeritus professor of history at the University of South Carolina, are about to be published in a book claiming to offer the definitive answer to the mystery of the infamous **Appin** murder of 1752.

Holcombe spent two decades researching original sources relating to the shooting of **Colin Campbell of Glenure**, known as the Red Fox, and the subsequent hanging for his murder of the Jacobite **James Stewart**. The crime sent shockwaves through the British establishment, coming only six years after the Jacobite rebellion had been stamped out at Culloden. Claim and counterclaim have reverberated down through history, but the general consensus is that James of the Glens was not the true culprit.

Ancient Animosity, which was completed after Holcombe's death in 2002 by her journalist son **Tim Breen**, trawls through nearly 500 sources and comes up with an answer, which may finally lay the riddle to rest. Holcombe proposes that **Donald Stewart of Ballachulish** was responsible - a theory which chimes with the deathbed claim of 89-year-old **Anda Penman**, a descendant of the *Stewarts of Appin*, who also identified him as the killer, having kept a secret passed down generations of her family. In 2001, Penman said Stewart was believed to be the best shot of four co-conspirators, and had to be held down in Ballachulish House on the day James Stewart was hanged because he wanted to confess. Holcombe, however, had come to the same conclusion as far back as 1997.

This confluence of historical research and folk memory is also backed up by Highland historian **Dr. James Hunter**, whose book, *Culloden And The Last Clansman*, proposed there was a Stewart conspiracy determined to see the end of Campbell. He described Penman's claims as "perfectly plausible".

Breen explained from Washington that his mother, whose specialty was British history, probably came to the Appin murder by way of Stevenson's *Kidnapped*. She began her book in 1982 or 1983, visited Edinburgh in 1986 to study documents in the National Archives and had resources sent to the US. The resulting 650-page book cites 447 sources. "It must be the definitive account, just from the sheer volume of sources consulted," Breen said. "After more than 250 years, who can tell with 100% certainty who did it? I think mom just said, 'What the hell, I think I know who did it. Here's what I have to back it up.'"

Campbell, a government-appointed estate manager, was shot dead in the Woods of Lettermore, in Argyll, in May 1752, while on his way to evict farming tenants in Duror. He was on the king's business, and so his assassination could not go unpunished. It was attributed to the Stewart clan and when the prime suspect, **Allan Breac Stewart** – who wields the gun in Stevenson's 1886 novel – could not be found, James Stewart, who had organized resistance to the evictions, was hanged as an accessory to the murder. For more than four years, his corpse was left on the gibbet, above the present-day site of the southern end of Ballachulish Bridge.

Holcombe claims the events of 1752 were a marker in the transition of Scotland to a modern society. She writes: "The trial and execution of James Stewart, effectively pitting him against Campbell, Duke of Argyll, was the culmination of three centuries of hostility – there would be no more fighting between the clans. The sources, if approached without preconceived notions and studied dispassionately, solve the puzzles about the Appin murder."

Penman, whose grandfather was the Dean of Argyll and the Isles, said Stevenson spent a great deal of time with him "but never found out who committed the murder". If Holcombe is right, she will have gone one better than the man who first inspired her interest in the Appin murder.

Ancient Animosity: The Appin Murder And The End Of Scottish Rebellion by Lee Holcombe is published next month by 1stbooks.

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER
UNITY HERITAGE ENCAMPMENT WEEK
Registration Form

Fill out all information below **(Please Print)**

Name:

Participating as re-enactor: Member of Clan Am Cu
Representing 18th Century Darien Scot

As Male[] Female[]

Mailing address:

Phone work:

Phone home:

Period food for Thurs. evening- (optional)

Encamping with: 18th century Scots

Attending on which days: [] Tues. [] Wed. [] Thurs. [] Fri. [] Sat.

Security/weapons: Identify the number of weapons being brought on-Center that are period (black powder) weapons, and the type and use. [Example: 4- muskets (display only), 2- pistols (1- display, 1- to demo), and 1 cannon (to demo).] Edged weapons do not need to be listed. (**Note:** no non-period weapons may be brought onto the FLETC. Any personal weapons other than those defined above, must be reported to Security at Bldg. 1 before entering the Front Gate.)

List weapons and use as shown above:

Please sign and date below. Registration is not complete without this.

Signature:

Date: