



THE COCHRAN(E) HERITAGE



Volume 3 Number 2

August 1991

WELCOME TO THE NEW SON AND HEIR

This is to announce the Birth of
Archie Iain Thomas Blair-Cochrane
Son of
Lord and Lady Dundonald
On March 14, 1991

As the first born son of
Iain Alexander Douglas Blair-Cochrane
The 15th Earl of Dundonald
And Chief of Clan Cochrane
This new wee Clan member
Is sent the prayers and best
Wishes of all the Clan in North
America and to his proud parents
Our Hearty CONGRATULATIONS!

FROM THE PIPES OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

Dear Clanspeople:

Greetings from Maryland. We appear to have skipped spring this year and immediately went to July. The temperature here has been around 95 since early May with no break in sight.

The Earl of Dundonald sends us the announcement of the birth of his son and heir, Lord Archie Iain Thomas Blair-Cochrane.

Our membership is still about 40 people. We lose about as many as we gain. I'd like to thank the old members for their continued loyalty and extend a warm "Ceud Mile Faulte", to our new members. For whatever reasons you joined I hope you enjoy the reading.

Running this organization has been a real challenge. Thank you for your patience as we continue to try new things. We are signing reciprocal agreements with other organizations so that we can bring you interesting articles and we will be continuing to make our ties with Clan Cochrane in Australia. Car decals are almost ready.

Mike McLaren has recently published a book of Clan Crests. It's a well done book and Clan Cochrane is included. For those of you who have seen it, you may have noticed that the horse has its left hoof raised. Every coat of arms, including the Chiefs show the right hoof raised. Mr. McLaren informed me that this is the ancient arms and made reference to the poster "Scotland of Old". The Earl of Dundonald confirmed that some of the ancient crests in his possession have the left hoof raised. Either, it appears, is acceptable.

I will be representing Clan Cochrane at the Virginia Scottish Games on the 27th and 28th of July. They are located at the Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Virginia. Clan Cochrane will be sponsoring a trophy for the first time. If you are nearby, come visit me. If things go well I will be also attending the Stone Mountain Games in Georgia in October.

Have a good summer,

Yours Aye,
Michael

"THE FIGHTING COCHRANES NOW IN NORTH AMERICA"

One of the fighting Cochrane's has obtained the distribution rights to this excellent book describing the story of the Clan.

Colonel William Cochran, of Cochrane Associates has received the first shipment and is ready to distribute. This is a MUST for every Cochran(e) who wishes to know his or her roots. The cost is \$39.95 U.S. Funds and this includes shipping, etc. You may have already received notice of this but we in the Clan wanted to give Bill our thanks for his efforts and tell you that if you have not had a chance to read this work it is well worthwhile. Please send your requests to: Cochran Associates, 7256 Tiara Avenue, Highland, California, 92346, U.S.A.

Bill is one of our new members and qualifies as a "Fighting Cochrane" having served with the United States Air Force. Hopefully he will share his interesting career with us in a future issue. Hope you sell this shipment out Bill!

COCHRANES IN THE NEWS

RUSS COCHRAN WINS WESTERN OPEN



Monday, July 8th – Russ Cochran, a left handed native of Kentucky yesterday won his first PGA tournament worth \$180,000.00. He captured the Western Open in Lemont, Illinois in an upset victory over Australian Greg Norman. Cochran made up seven shots over Norman over the last eight holes for the dramatic victory. “I feel fortunate to come out on top of such great players” said Russ as he surged past both Norman and Freddie Couples.

COCHRANE HISTORY ON A SCROLL

All of us have seen various histories of Clan Cochrane. Last summer while strolling a mall I came across a computer name history company. They punched in Cochrane and the history you see on page 4 is a reduction of that parchment scroll. It ran about \$15.00 Canadian funds and the company was Hall of Names (Canada), P.O. Box 136, Cambridge, Ontario N1R 7G6 Canada. How does this one compare with the history you know?

HIGH COMMISSIONER IN CAR CRASH!

Michael Hartley, High Commissioner for Clan Cochrane in North America was in a serious car accident one week ago. He was involved in a head on collision in which the car was totaled. Michael suffered a concussion and was badly cut as well.

In speaking to him he assures me that he has survived but as he was given last rites at the scene of the accident the severity cannot be in question.

Our best wishes and prayers of thanks go out for him.

The
Ancient History
Of the Distinguished Surname
*****COCHRANE*****

Few areas in Britain have produced as many notable families in world history such as the names Armstrong, Nixon, Graham, Bell, Hume, Irving, Lock, Rutherford, as the Border of England and Scotland. The family name COCHRANE is included in this group.

Researchers have confirmed the first documented history of this name in lowland Scotland and northern England, tracing it through many ancient manuscripts, including private collections of historical and genealogical records, the Inquisition, the Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, the Ragman Rolls, The Hearth Rolls, the Domesday Book, parish cartularies, baptismal, and tax rolls. The first record of the name COCHRANE was found in Renfrewshire where they were seated from very ancient times, some say well before the Norman Conquest and the arrival of Duke William at Hastings in 1066 A.D.

Different spellings of the name were found in the archives researched, typically linking each alternate to the root source of the surname. The surname COCHRANE, occurred in many references, from time to time the surname was spelt COCHRANE, COCHRAN, COCRANE, COCRAN, COCHREN, COCKRAM, COCKRAN, COCKREN, COCKRON, MaEACHEARN, McECHERN, McEACHRAN, McEACHERN, and these changes in spelling frequently occurred, even between father and son. Scribes and church officials recorded the name from its sound.

The family name COCHRANE is believed to be descended originally from the Strathclyde Britons. This ancient, founding race of the north were a mixture of Gaelic/Celts whose original territories ranged from Lancastershire in the south, northward to the south bank of the River Clyde in Scotland.

Tracing its ancient development, the name COCHRANE was found in Renfrewshire where they were recorded as a family of great antiquity seated at COCHRANE near Paisley in the shire. Walter COCHRANE was the first on record in 1262. His son William COCHRANE, the second chief of the Clan, rendered homage to King Edward I in 1296 on his brief conquest of Scotland. Edward COCHRANE was one of the nobles accused of making King James III a prisoner at Edinburgh. The coastal McEACHERNS, known as "the sons of the horse lord" gave their symbol to the COCHRANES, and at this point became inexplicably bound up with the COCHRANES when Colin McEACHERN the Chief changed his name to McCOCHRANE, married the heiress Elizabeth COCHRANE, and assumed the arms of the COCHRANE Clan. Their son, Sir William COCHRANE, was created the first Earl of Dundonald. He erected the tower which is now known as COCHRANE Castle, Andrew COCHRANE founded one of the first trade societies in history, the family at this time was William COCHRANE, Earl of Dundonald.

By the year 1000 A.D., border life was in turmoil. In 1246, 6 Chiefs from the Scottish side and 6 from the English side met at Carlisle and produced a set of laws governing all the border Clans. These were unlike any laws prevailing in England or Scotland or, for that matter, anywhere else in the world. For example, it was a far greater offense to refuse to help a neighbor recover his property, wife, sheep, cattle, or horses than it was to steal them in the first place. Hence the expression "Hot Trod" or "Hot pursuit", from which we get the modern "Hot to trot". For refusal of assistance during a "Hot Trod" a person could be hanged on the instant, without trial. Frequently, the descendants of these Clans or families apologetically refer to themselves as being descended from "cattle or horse thieves" when in fact it was an accepted code of life on the border.

In 1603, the unified English and Scottish crowns under James 1st dispersed these "unruly border clans", clans which had served loyally in the defense of each side. The unification of the governments was threatened and it was imperative that the old "border code" should be broken up. Hence, the Border Clans were banished to England, northern Scotland and to Ireland. Some were outlawed, but the name should not be confused with the Irish CORCORAN.

But life in Ireland was little more rewarding and they sought a more challenging life. They looked to the New World and sailed aboard the "White Sails" an armada of sailing ships such as the Hector, the Rambler, and the Dove which struggled across the stormy Atlantic. Some ships lost 30 or 40% of their passenger list, migrants who were buried at sea having died from dysentery, cholera, small pox, and typhoid.

In North America, some of the first migrants which could be considered kinsmen of the family name COCHRANE and their spelling variants were Sir John COCHRANE of Ochiltree applied to the King for a grant of 12,000 acres in Carolina on which to settle his clansmen in 1682, and many of the Clan followed naming many villages and towns in North America with the Clan name. The migrants formed wagon trains westward, rolling west to the prairies, or the west coast. During the American War of Independence those that remained loyal to the Crown moved north into Canada and became known as the United Empire Loyalists.

There were many notable contemporaries of this name COCHRANE, Lord COCHRANE; Sir Desmond COCHRANE; General James COCHRANE; Phillip COCHRANE; Air Chief Marshall Sir Ralph COCHRANE.

The most ancient grant of a Coat of Arms found was:

Silver with a red chevron between three blue boars' heads

The crest is: A Horse

The ancient family motto for this distinguished name is: "Virtute et Labore".

Note: 2010 – The above scroll has a lot wrong in the story of the Cochranes. If you truly know the history you will find the mistakes. The biggest one is that it wasn't Colin McEACHERN that married Elizabeth Cochrane and saved the name it was Alexander BLAIR! Number 2 is the McEachern's changed their name to Cochrane in the 1600's to hide from the kings men! This is the one associated with Clan Donald.