

THE BORDER REIVER



Volume 25, Number 3

Voice of Clan Hall Society

September 2018



Through Difficulties to Heaven

Septs of Clan Hall

Collingwood
Crispin
De Aula
Fitz Williams
Ha Hal
Hale Halle
Harle(y) Haul(e)
Haugh Haw
Mac Hall

Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Wisdom from an old Scotsman	3
Recollections of CHS History	4
Clan Hall Society AGBM	5
President Appointments	6
Clan Hall Society Contacts	7
Membership Dues Reminder	7
2018 Budget for Clan Hall	7
Welcome New Members	7
Editor's Notes	8

Happy Silver Anniversary Clan Hall Society

On August 14, 1993, Clan Hall Society was born.

In this edition we will learn of its history
from the late founder and first President
Atlas D. Hall, FSA Scot.

Interview with Atlas D. Hall FSA Scot,— Summer 2006 Grand Father Mountain Highland Games



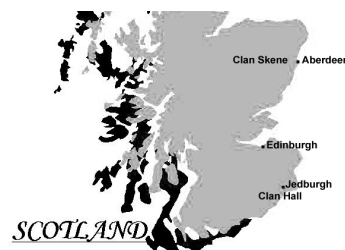
Atlas D. Hall, FSA Scot—2006

In July, 2006, the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, North Carolina, were held from the 6th through the 9th. Clan Hall Society had been participating at these Games for many years since CHS's inception in 1993. During the course of that weekend I had the opportunity to video record an interview with CHS President, Atlas Hall. He along with his mother Goshen had been the key founders of Clan Hall Society. Atlas was the first President and served until his passing from a heart attack in November of that same year. The following is that interview.

TBR: What prompted you to organize and establish Clan Hall Society?

Atlas: The Clan Skene Association had been saying we (Halls) were a

sept. I had become dissatisfied with Clan Skene after I had done a large amount of research and a number of other people had done similar research, and we were finding that the Halls being from the Borders while Clan Skene was in the Highlands, the connection must be wrong of what we've been told. Through further research we were finding that there



were very few Halls in the Aberdeen area that is approximately 200 miles north of the Borders. We discovered there were a large number of people in the Borders that were Halls and that they resided on both sides of the English Border. Continued historical searching showed that the some Scottish Halls married English Halls which resulted in dual allegiances.

See Atlas Interview Page 3

Sept— A surname associated with a Clan either through marriage or under the protection of and/or were dependents of the Clan .



The President's Report

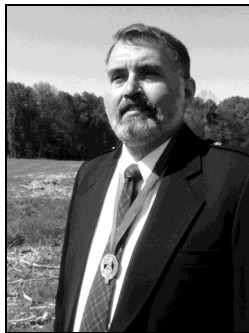
Greetings to my fellow members of Clan Hall Society.

I recently received a comment from an individual who had viewed the "History of Clan Hall" video on Youtube. This person stated that they were not proud of their Border Hall ancestry because the Border Halls were nothing but thieves. I cannot fault this person for their feelings. At Highland Games I have often quipped about our ancestors being cattle rustlers, horse thieves, blackmailers, and extortionist. In return I get a smile with the response "Sounds about right." So let's face it, reivers were thieves, but not in the sense of a common burglar or robber.

The era of the Border Reiving families were turbulent times. The prospect of war between Scotland and England was ever present. The prime farming lands in the eastern borders were the easiest points of invasion for attacking armies to cross as they sought to conquer their foe. This made the potential for good harvests always questionable. Thus, to provide for one's family came by conducting raids across the border. If any one of us lived in that region during the 14th thru the 16th centuries we would most likely have participated in reiving raids and thought nothing of it.

The Scottish and English governments never endorsed the reiving ways of their Border families, but they did view it as a way of antagonizing the neighboring country. However, Border families would not have cared of their respective governments' concerns on this matter anyway. Their allegiances were family first, the Borders second, the Crown a distant third. Until the uniting of the crowns in 1603, the Borders were an unofficial autonomous region.

We need to remember that we cannot judge cultures of the past with contemporary values. The reiving centuries were hard times. Evaluating that period



of history needs to be based on the culture and needs of the people living in that era. Our ancestors from the Borders were hardened by the society they lived in. They developed skills that allowed them to survive. Though at times ruthless, character traits of tenacity, loyalty, and steadfastness have been passed down through the generations. A passion for living and a passion of life are also traits that have been foundation stones that have enabled descendants of the Border Reiver families to be contributors to the history and advancement of mankind.

With tongue in cheek, we and other Border Clans, celebrate our Reiver ancestors for their notorious ways. However, I also celebrate the brave men and women who have impacted history because of the foundations built into them by their ancestors from the Borders.

Skip Hall

John A. Hall, Jr.
President, Clan Hall Society



Clan Hall Tartan "Now Available" through USA-Kilts

Below is a direct link to the woven wool Hall tartan selection at **USA-Kilts**. This is actually the correct tartan even though the color appears off slightly, due to email transmission, but it is the correct tartan as listed.

<http://www.usakilts.com/gallery/13-16-oz-wool/hall-modern-7742/view>

Contact: "**Rocky**" Roeger at **USA-Kilts** [<http://www.usakilts.com/> or (800) 368-8633] who also lists items that can be made from the tartan and the prices - ties, sashes, kilts, kilted skirts, plaids, etc. This is an effort to move the tartan we have purchased sooner, as he may get calls from people not members of Clan Hall Society.

Earlier year, **USA-Kilts** placed an order for Hall Modern #2092 Tartan. "**Rocky**" has been taking orders and there may be some

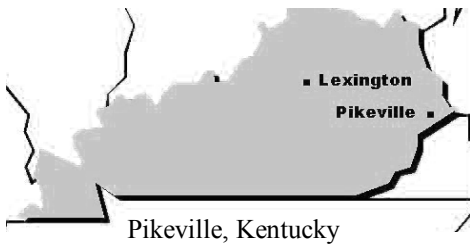


Atlas Hall Interview, continued from page 1.

TBR: After conducting all this research what did you do next?

Atlas: We made a call and conversed with several others and we thought it would be advantageous for us to form our own society. Making this decision was further influenced because we were also getting flak from some of the Scottish community as to why you are claiming yourselves as Skene, Hall is a Border Clan.

We sent invitations to a number of people and we met in Pikeville, located in Eastern Kentucky.



At this time, with the guidance of C.O.S.C.A., (Council of Scottish Clans and Associations) we presented our evidence obtained through historical research. We then contacted the Lord Lyon Court in Scotland and stated we were a Border Clan and Skene's assump-

tion that Hall was a shortened version of Halliard didn't meet the muster.

On August 14, 1993, Clan Hall Society was officially organized with 23 Charter members. The cutoff of being a charter member was January 1, 1994.

TBR: From your research what did you discover as an origin for the Hall Surname?

Atlas: The Halls originally came by Normandy. One of the members of William the Conqueror's group that came to England, specifically into Lincolnshire, was Earl Wentworth Fitzwilliam. He had a younger brother by the name of Arthur who in 1070 was given the name of Hall. Arthur had amassed a large fortune and prestige in the community to the point that he and Earl Wentworth were just about the same in importance so as to distinguish the two brothers Arthur was given the surname of Hall.

TBR: How did the Halls end up in the Borders?

Atlas: We found out that in 1090

the king of Scotland had invited some Halls to migrate northward. They settled in the Otterburn and Redesdale areas of England and in the areas of Teviotdale, Liddlesdale, and Roxburghshire, in Scotland. The Halls being a Border Clan had many allegiances and alliances on both sides of the border.

TBR: Do you have a final message for the Clan Hall members.

Atlas: Be personable. When you go out to the Games and festivals and when you meet the Scottish community or meeting people in general be as friendly as you can be. There are more people with Scot's blood than they would realize, so encourage them to be interested in their culture, research their families, document it, and be proud of the fact that you are a Scot.

There is something my grandfather taught me years ago, "if you want friends show yourself friendly." We have demonstrated that to the Scottish community. Over the years we have been known as one of the most friendly Clans you will meet. Be more involved in what you are doing and keep on working



Wisdom from an old Scotsman
Never let your feet run faster than your shoes

www.wow4u.com/scottish-proverbs/index.html



Personal Recollections of the History of Clan Hall Society by: John Hall, President – Clan Hall Society

My wife Debbie and I have been members of Clan Hall Society since early 1999. In April, 1999, we attended our

first Clan Hall Annual General Business Meeting, AGBM. This was held near Charlotte, NC, at the Loch Norman Highland Games. We sat with about 25 other members who were very serious and enthusiastic about

continuing the growth

and development of Clan Hall Society.

So how has CHS grown and developed over the last two and a half decades? What has it grown from and where is it at today?

.Atlas D. Hall was the founder and first President of Clan Hall Society which was established in 1993. It was the research of Atlas along with others that revealed the uniqueness of the Border Halls and their participation in Border Reiver society and history. In addition to the creation of CHS Atlas also designed and registered the Hall Tartan with the Tartan Education and Cultural Association.

There were 23 original charter members. The earliest membership was centered in Eastern Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee, along with a few other states like Ohio and Texas. Membership grew because of the enthusiasm of those charter members and their participation in several major Highland Games. These events brought exposure to Clan Hall and as a result more Halls discovered their Scottish Border roots and identity. Because of the efforts of the CHS Commissioners we are represented at events in nine and soon to be eleven States. We now have members scattered throughout

the United States, England, Australia, and Germany.

Modifications - Organizational

Clan Hall Society's organizational structure has changed only marginally over the years. The original Constitution and By-laws have been modified, but only to

better structuralize the organization without modifying its intent of being. The one area where this is most evident was in the changes needed so that CHS would be compliant with IRS language specifications. In 2009 we filed for and received a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization classification. All donations and contributions are now tax deductible.

Modifications - Communications

Communication is an area that has changed dramatically over the last 25 years. In those early years CHS reached out to people through representation at Highland Games, Clan Hall listings in several publications, and the quarterly newsletter, *The Border Reiver*. We now utilize Facebook, and our website, www.clanhallsociety.org. CHS has not yet entered the land of Twitter and Instagram. It is my hope as more youthful members become active in Clan Hall, they will bring their knowledge of social media with them and incorporate it to CHS.

The CHS website has become beneficial for Clan Hall members. A person can join or renew their membership online. Payments are processed from the website

via our PayPal link. I have used this convenience since it was established and so have many current and new members alike.

Modifications - Crest

The original crest featured a dog known as a Talbot with the motto "Vive Ut Vivas" (Live that you may live). This crest was in public domain and though it is attributed to Hall it was not unique to Clan Hall Society. In 2016 David Hall and I created a crest and Coat of Arms that will be unique to CHS with a motto "Per Ardua Ad Alta", (Through difficulties to heaven). The new designs were approved at the 2017 AGBM. After the approval I filed them with the US Copyright Office. Clan Hall Society now has copyright ownership of our Crest and Coat of Arms. I am hoping they will be available soon on T-shirts for our members.



Clan Hall Society in Scotland



David Hall & John Hall
Gathering 2009

One of the truly big events Clan Hall Society participated was in July, 2009, at Scotland's

"Gathering 2009." This event took place in Edinburgh, Scotland and was the largest gathering of Scottish Clans and associations in several hundred years. The

(Continued on page 5)



Personal Recollections Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

CHS Executive V.P. at that time, David Hall, his wife Pam, my wife Debbie and I were there hosting the Clan Hall tent. During this time we met a number of Halls who never realized they were once considered a Border Clan, though Halls are listed in Border history.



Clan Tent Area—Gathering 2009

The grandest experience of the Gathering 2009 was the Parade of Clans. An event unlike any other I had experienced or ever will again. We four joined the approximately 8,500 other Gathering 2009 participants and marched up the Royal Mile to Edinburgh Castle. Lining the street were about 10,000 spectators standing along the parade route, on balconies, through

open windows and on roof tops cheering as if we were a victorious army returning home. In a sense we were. We were representing the thousands upon thousands of Scots who left Scotland over a span of many centuries to establish residences all over the world. Now we were home to say thank you for the heritage Scotland had given us.

My hope is that the passage of time will not cause a reduction in research and interest of our ancestral roots. It is in our past that we discover the foundations of who we are as a people. Clan Hall Society does not so much celebrate the activities of Halls as Border Reivers, but to celebrate the tenacious spirit and personal independence of a people who were able to survive through very trying and dangerous times. The Border Halls never had a Clan Chief or dominate headman. I tend to view them as an independent lot who maintained their own identity within the Borders, contributing to its history.

As we complete 25 years as Clan Hall Society, I hope the next 25 will bring in-

creased growth; contributing to the history and pride of being a Hall.



Looking back behind Clan Hall as we waited for the start of the Parade of Clans



Gail cutting slice of anniversary cake for Steve

Clan Hall Society 2018 AGBM



Clan Hall 2018 AGBM Attendees

our Kentucky Commissioners and Clan tent hosts, Gail Kilburn and her sister, Sandra Huff. They also



Gail Kilburn & Sandra Huff

provided two cakes to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Clan Hall Society.

The basic highlights of the meeting:

The US Copyright Office has granted Clan Hall Society copyright ownership of our Clan Crest, Coat of Arms, Clan seal, and the hound head.

The retaining of the New Member Recruitment offer, if a member gets a minimum of three new members to join that member will receive a 1 year free membership.

Clan Hall Society held its 2018 Annual General Business meeting on June 2nd, at the Glasgow Highland Games. These Games are take place at the Barron River Lake State Park near Glasgow Ky. Prior to the meeting we were treated to a lunch that was provided by



(Continued on page 6)



THE BORDER REIVER

Clan Hall AGBM 2018 cont.

(Continued from page 5)

The extra \$2.00 membership fee for international members has been removed.

The 2019 AGBM is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Mid Atlantic Celtic Festival in Fredrick, Maryland.

Election of Officers

John Hall, President
Steven R. Hall, Executive Vice President
Lee Hall, Vice President, Eastern Region
Ken Hall, Vice President, Western Region
Kelly Hall, Treasurer
Debbie Hall, Secretary
David J Hall, England, Board Member
3 year term.

Due to David and Pam Hall stepping down from their positions Greg Hall is replacing Pam as Membership Secretary and I, John Hall, am replacing David as Border Reiver editor.

Another item to add is a fund raising project will soon be started. Official Clan Hall Society t-shirts will soon be made available. A minimum donation level has not yet been set. Once everything is established, an announcement will be made on the Clan Hall Facebook page and on

our website. This will be a great way to show your association with Clan Hall Society.

President Appointments

Membership Secretary:

Greg Hall
GHall@clanhallsociety.org

Regional Commissioner Arizona

Jay Hampton
jayh301@comcast.net

Regional Commissioner, Kentucky:

Sandra Huff / Gail Kilburn
skhisaac@att.net

Regional Commissioner, New York:

Lee Hall
leehall48@hotmail.com

Regional Commissioner, Ohio:

John (Skip) & Debbie Hall
ten29prod@aol.com

Regional Commissioner, Oklahoma:

Ken Hall
kenmhall1@msn.com

Regional Commissioner, Pacific Region:

David & Pam Hall
tailhooker@spamarrest.com

Regional Commissioner, Pennsylvania:

Steve R. & Teresa Hall
setaf@frontier.com



AGBM—A gathering of friends and family

Regional Commissioner, Tennessee:

Steve H. Hall / Josh L. Hall
hallkilt@aol.com / tnjosh@aol.com

Regional Commissioner, Virginia:

Greg & Kelly Hall
ghall98659@aol.com

Regional Commissioner, Washington:

John & Yvonne Hall
jonnybravo_1984@hotmail.com

Commissioners-at-Large:

Joey Hall & Shawn Hall
joeyhighlander@gmail.com

Clan Pipers:

Joey Hall & Shawn Hall

DNA Project:

David J. Hall, Warwickshire, England
David@hallclan.co.uk

Newsletter Editor: & Web Master:

John A. (Skip) Hall
TBR@clanhallsociety.org

Facebook:

Steve R. Hall
setaf@frontier.com



CHS Officers 2018—2019 L-R

Debbie Hall, John Hall, Greg Hall, Kelly Hall, Steve R. Hall, Lee Hall



MEMBERSHIP DUES
Annual dues for 2018-19
Were due by
July 1, 2018

Our new **Membership Secretary, Greg Hall**,
 will be looking forward to receiving your renewal:

- Please mail in your renewal to -

Greg Hall
9301 Lakeland Terrace
Henrico, VA 23229
 Or you can renew online

An Individual Membership is \$15.00; Family Membership is
 \$20.00. Make checks payable to Clan Hall Society or by PayPal at
 Clan Hall Society website:
www.clanhallsociety.org

Thank you!

Clan Hall Society Contacts

President

John A. "Skip" Hall Tel: (330) 270-0387
 5695 Cider Mill Crossing
 Youngstown, OH 44515
 E-mail: JHall@clanhallsociety.org

Executive Vice-President

Steve R. Hall Tel: 570-265-4210
 992 McNeal Road
 Towanda, PA 18848
 Email: SRHall@clanhallsociety.org

Secretary

Debbie Hall Tel: (330) 270-0387
 5695 Cider Mill Crossing
 Youngstown, OH 44515
 E-mail: DAHall@clanhallsociety.org

Treasurer

Kelly Hall Tel: 636-390-0641
 9301 Lakeland Terrace
 Henrico, VA 23229
 E-mail: KHall@clanhallsociety.org

Vice President Western Region

Ken Hall Tel: 405-209-9559
 9100 Lakeaire Drive
 Oklahoma City, OK 14512
 Email: KMHall@clanhallsociety.org

Vice President Eastern Region

Lee Hall Tel: 585-374-5678
 6961 Sumac Drive
 Naples, NY 14512
 Email: LHall@clanhallsociety.org

Membership Secretary

Greg Hall Tel: 717-309-7662
 9301 Lakeland Terrace
 Henrico, VA 23229
 Email: GHall@clanhallsociety.org

Welcome New Members

Diana Hesser of Illinois & James Hall of New York

Thank you for becoming
 members of
 Clan Hall Society

2018 Budget for Clan Hall Society
 [Summary]

Balance forward (12/31/17)	\$ 1694.99
Projected Membership receipts	\$ 950.00
Projected Total	\$ 2644.99
Projected Expenses	\$ 2020.00
Balance	\$ 624.99

Hall Tartan
Now Available
For more information
go to page 2



The Border Reiver
5695 Cider Mill Crossing
Youngstown, OH 44515

Postage
Stamp



***The Border Reiver
Voice of Clan Hall Society***

Clan Hall Society is a not-for-profit
501(c)(3) charitable organization

Visit us on the Web at:
www.ClanHallSociety.org



Editor's Notes



***TBR Editor
Skip Hall***

Becoming the editor for The Border Reiver is a new challenge for me. David Hall, our previous editor, set a standard for the quality of publication that will be hard to emulate. However, I will do my best. What I would appreciate is some input from you the CHS membership. I would like to hear your stories relating to your Hall ancestry especially if it has connections with the Borders or you or they have contributed to historical events.

This is your newsletter so please feel free in submitting articles for consideration. Please understand that any article submitted will be evaluated and edited. A submission is no guarantee of inclusion but each will receive an honest review. Pictures are also encouraged.

Send all submissions by email:
TBR@clanhallsociety.org

NEW - from Spoonflower - Hall Tartan

Printed (not woven) Hall tartan is now available in 21 different fabrics. Affordable Hall tartan can be used for table & napkin cloths, window curtains, quilts, pillows, kids and pets clothes, banners, etc.

<http://www.spoonflower.com/fabric/4251305-hall-tartan-by-weavingmajor>

Clan Hall Society Video

Be sure to get the video documentary
"The Clan Hall Society, Our History Past and Present."

This 16 minute video on DVD looks at the Halls as a Border family and the formation of the Clan Hall Society in 1993.

Cost \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping.

Make check payable to:
Forerunner Multimedia Films LLC
P.O.Box 4060
Youngstown, OH 44515

