



CLAN HENDERSON AGM MOVED ONCE MORE!



Now it's October 31 - November 1, 2020

The Clan Henderson Annual General Meeting, that was scheduled for May 1 – 3 at Big Cedar Lodge in Missouri, has been cancelled.

The organizers of this event, Charm and Louis Russell, and LaRhee Henderson have concluded negotiations with Big Cedar to establish October 31 – November 1 as the new date for this event.

How to change your reservations to October if you had reserved a room in our block:

You will get a cancellation notice from Big Cedar for the May Event. Once you receive that

letter, call them to confirm your reservation for October 31-November 1. Contact LaRhee Henderson at <larhee.henderson@drake.edu> if you need help.

Many other activities throughout the country (the world for that matter) have also been cancelled. If you have questions or concerns about these events please contact your regional commissioner. Their contact information can be obtained in *An Canach* or the website: <clanhendersonsociety.org>

New Henderson officers to be elected at the 2020 AGM

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Peggy Sanford (Chair), Mary Lane Henderson, Suzanne Emerson, and Barbara Pamboukes, is pleased to announce the nominations to the Executive Board of Clan Henderson for a term of two years beginning January 1, 2021, and ending December 31, 2022.

President.	Leon Hicks
V.P. Operations.	Steve Henderson
V.P. Members	Mark Henderson

V.P. General Council.	Vince Henderson
V.P. Genealogy/DNA.	LaRhee Henderson
Treasurer	Carol Martin
Secretary.	Sue Hoffman

Voting will take place at the AGM in Branson, Missouri, on October 31, 2020.

Nominations can be taken for any position from the floor however those being nominated must give their permission to be nominated prior to the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Peggy Sanford

* Henderson * Henryson * Henrisoun * Henders * McHendry * McHenry * Hendrie * Hendron * d'Hendresson
* Eanrig * Eanruig * Enderson * Endherson * Endirsone * MacCanrig * MacCanrik * McKendrick
* MacKendry * McKendree * Kendric and other versions of MacEanruit, which means "Son of Henry"

CARES ACT \$300 TAX DEDUCTION FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

Vincent Henderson II,
Vice President - General Counsel Clan Henderson Society, Inc.

The COVID-19 pandemic has taken its toll on the lives, livelihoods, and way of life of Americans across the nation. The U.S. Congress has addressed the manifold challenges of this pandemic in several different enactments. One of these challenges is the severe drop-off of financial support for charitable organizations.

When hard economic times hit, often one of the first things to go in a family budget supported by an ever-shrinking family income, is charitable giving.

To deal with this problem, Congress has enacted several laws to help fight against COVID-19 and alleviate the devastating effects of the pandemic.

One of the provisions of the CARES Act allows taxpayers to deduct up to \$300 of their cash donations to qualifying organizations without having to itemize deductions.

The Clan Henderson Society is a qualified organization for the purposes of this tax deduction as it is a 501(c)(3) organization.

This new \$300 deduction is different from the regular charitable contribution deduction. Generally, only a taxpayer who itemizes deductions can qualify for the charitable contribution deduction. This deduction can reduce the taxes a taxpayer owes by reducing the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI). Also, a taxpayer is only allowed the deduction for donations that are up to 60% of AGI.

The new \$300 deduction under the CARES Act is specifically for taxpayers who do not itemize deductions and would ordinarily not get a tax benefit for charitable donations. Because this new deduction is an above-the-line deduction, the deduction is applied to calculate the taxpayer's AGI.

In other words, when a taxpayer donates up to \$300 in cash to a qualified organization, his or her AGI is reduced by the amount donated and the taxpayer can also claim the standard deduction.

If a taxpayer itemizes deductions, the \$300 deduction cannot be used to reduce the taxpayer's AGI, but may still be used as a charitable deduction claimed on Schedule A. And for those taxpayers who can afford it, the CARES Act has increased the level for the deductible amount of donations for those itemizing deductions from 60% to 100% of AGI. Theoretically, a taxpayer could donate his or her entire income for the tax year and owe no taxes!

Why did Congress do this?

The number of taxpayers who itemize deductions was dramatically reduced as a result of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act of 2017 by increasing the number of taxpayers who qualified for the increased standard deduction amount provided for in the 2017 act.

This disincentivized giving to many worthwhile charitable organizations. COVID-19 has accelerated the deleterious effects on qualified charitable organizations of this reduction in charitable giving.

The CARES Act tax benefit for taxpayers who claim the standard deduction incentivizes continued charitable giving through donations to qualified charitable organizations, such as the Clan Henderson Society, during this time of social and economic stress.

This opportunity is good for this tax year only, tax year 2020.

This information has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide, and should not be relied on for, tax, legal or accounting advice. You should consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisors before engaging in any transaction.

Important. Please read this page.



President's Quarterly Message

Leon Hicks

*Clan Henderson Society
President*

Dear Society Members

Well, a lot has changed during the last two months; however, Clan Henderson Society is still moving forward and making great strides toward making a meaningful contribution to our Celtic culture, our Scottish heritage, and our Henderson history.

There is no getting around the fact that shutting down all the games and festivals has had an impact on our recruitment and the retention of members.

It has also had an impact on our finances inasmuch as we rely on membership dues to pay for many of our outreach programs such as scholarships, donations to charities, and gifts to Scottish heritage programs.

Suffice to say that this is an excellent time for our members to make gift memberships to family and friends. This is also a good time to make a charitable contribution to one of our scholarship programs.

Regarding charitable donations, there have been significant changes to the laws related to charitable giving due to the recent pandemic legislation. Many limitations that were in place last year have been lifted and/or modified. Please check with your tax preparer in order to get the latest information. These changes are to the benefit of those making charitable gifts and donations. {Contributions should be sent to: Ms. Carol Martin, Treasurer Clan Henderson Society, 96 Cross Rd., Clarksburg, MA 01247}

We are hopeful that we will see a restart of games and festivals this fall. The outdoor games and festivals are probably the safest venue for a social

gathering, but I'm sure there will be some restructuring of these events.

We may need to reconsider how we set up our society tents, provide an ample supply of the hand sanitizers, and ensure there is a more-than-ample supply of that famous Scottish elixir that protects and heals all body and spiritual maladies.

Since the last President's Letter, we have formally established a Family Historical effort and have received a number of very interesting family stories. More stories continue to come in.

If you are staying at home this is an excellent time to start developing your family history and also start working on that genealogy project you have always wanted to do but never had the time.

We are still looking for a volunteer to help organize the program and maintain the Family History Program. Please contact LaRhee Henderson, VP Genealogy/DNA, if you have questions or comments about the Genealogy Program.

We are still planning to have our Annual General Meeting this fall in the Branson, Missouri, area.

Please check our website <clanhendersonsociety.org> for updates and/or changes.

This area has long been known for its first-class entertainment, live theatre, outdoor activities, etc.

If you are planning to take advantage of any of these extracurricular activities, I suggest you follow their websites closely for changes in venue, format, and seating.



Leon Hicks



Use a potlid...
and a hoodie!



Regarding charitable donations...

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Our CHS dancer, Brynn Brown broke her metatarsal...but it is getting better!

Brynn Brown's mom, Michelle Brown, writes that Brynn broke her 5th metatarsal back in February. She tripped over her feet at a playground and rolled her ankle and landed on her foot wrong. I love that she can dance but walking poses challenges. She was in an aircast for a spell. She is just starting back up practices again during quarantine.

Get well, soon, Brynn! Hope to see you dancing at games very, very soon!

*Think heritage
as an anytime
perfect gift!*

Gift CHS memberships.

They are perfect gifts for
Birthday & Anniversary!

Give the gift of heritage for only

\$20.00.

Just visit: <[https://
www.clanhendersonsociety.com
/donations-and-gifts](https://www.clanhendersonsociety.com/donations-and-gifts)>

**Wanna see and read
CHS's Meri Russel's
absolutely great
spreadsheet on
Scottish games?**

Just email:

russell.charm@gmail.com





Rev. Kyle Henderson

*Director of the Chaplain Corps
Clan Henderson Society*

My dear Society members,

Truly, we are living in a unique moment. Our CHS president, Leon Hicks, has asked me to write a message to share to all the Henderson cousins in our society. My name is Rev. Kyle Henderson and I currently serve as the Director of the Chaplain Corps. As you are aware, the Coronavirus has wrought devastation in many places around the world, and yet some places seem relatively untouched, with days blending into other days while we seem to be just biding time. I am in a South Carolina county that only has 35 cases so far. I know three of those people who have it or have had it, and they are currently okay.

But, we see places where that is not the case; perhaps you even know of some who have died from COVID-19. These are indeed times for me unlike any other. I have never been aware of being in a pandemic of this magnitude. Many times I dread turning on the news in order to avoid hearing anything heart-wrenching. In this period of distress and uncertainty, I encourage you to find the faith you need to handle this turmoil.

The Christian message is one not only of profound hope, but also of sacrificial love. Christians have hope and faith in Jesus Christ who endured the shame of the cross, dying a death to save us, but Jesus also preached a gospel of love and forgiveness. Yes, there is great hope especially as we sense the coming of Easter with its age-old truth of "victory over death"; these three words may seem trite to some, but the Easter Resurrection is the basis of faith in Christ. Resurrection is in fact what gives me hope every day; not just for the final one, but that, even in small situations, God raises up new life in the midst of seemingly hopeless situations. God works wonders and redeems mistakes through the love we can share. The internet is filled with the examples of first responders medical personnel, and others sacrificing themselves to help show love and care for so many.

In these unique times, find the faith you need; grab onto the hope of new life and God's redemptive power and share love with others the best way you can care.

May God grant you grace and peace to be strong and healthy,

Rev. Kyle Henderson

Director of the Chaplain Corps

Keeping Henderson Family History in our and Memories

Barbara Cass Pamboukes,
CHS North East Region Commissioner,
Portsmouth, NH

My 7th grade teacher in Geneva, New York, sparked my curiosity both for learning and for preserving our family's history. My fascination began with my father's collection of vintage photos, articles and a family tree found tucked away in that drawer.

Because of my interest through the years, I became the caretaker of the contents of that drawer and one of our family's historians.

My parents, Fritz and Betty (Russell) Cass, rarely talked about their family history. They were busy working, raising and loving their five children and families.

When Fritz was not working at Cass TV he was playing golf, poker, or tossing the ball nightly with his kids in the backyard.

Dad was an archiver and saver of memorabilia. He loved maps.

Dad enjoyed going to the Prouty-Chew Historical Society with me while I was home from college. Mom didn't really understand my fascination with documenting family history, but she happily accompanied me on my quest to visit cemeteries in Central New York.

When Mom was not working at Cass TV she enjoyed baking, knitting, sewing and work at Trinity Episcopal Church's Linden Shoppe.

I began with a search for our paternal ancestors, Cass and Henderson, as well as our maternal Russell Family. The search grew to the families of Boggs, Tilton, Hunt and Giltrap and Loss.....

My sister, Joan, and her husband, David, live in Corning, New York. My brothers and sisters-in-law, Richard, Russell, Cass and Margaret, Donald Henderson Cass and Mary Rose and Stephen Ray Cass live in Geneva, New York.



Betty Russell Cass and Fritz Cass

I always recall the collaborative "eye roll" from my siblings when the subject of cemeteries, etc. came up.

But through this journey, they have all, in their own way, embraced family history. Together we found homes, farms and cemeteries. We also found new cousins that we have welcomed to the family. I have nieces, nephews and cousins that live in Geneva, Penn Yan, Ithaca, Syracuse and Rochester, New York, and Virginia, North and South Carolina and Tennessee.

I moved from Geneva, New York, to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in 1976 after graduation from Nursing School.

I was employed in Portsmouth for over 40 years as a nurse. I was an RN at Portsmouth Emergency Department for 30 years and Portsmouth School Nurse for 20 years.

I married in Geneva in 1984 to an incredible person, Vassilios Pamboukes and have three chil-

Continued on page 7 on the left bottom



4 Generations of Women 1912 (left)

Standing is my paternal grandmother Irene Henderson Cass; seated to the left is Irene's Grandmother Jane Tilton Boggs (my 2nd GG) and seated to the right is Irene's Mother, Ella Boggs Henderson (my GG) holding Irene's daughter, Doris (my Aunt).

Grandmother Irene Henderson Cass died years before I was born. I am very fond of the few pictures I have of her. I was inspired to keep her memory and our families' history and heritage in our memory and hearts.

Henderson Family Reunion 1911 (below)

I would greatly like all Hendersons reading this *An Canach*, especially from the North East Region of CHS, to view this picture. Your family may be pictured here. Phineas Henderson, our 4th great grandfather is from

Bethlehem, Hunterdon, New Jersey, and settled in Tully, New York, near Onondaga Hill, Syracuse, New York, following the American Revolution. This 1911 photo is presumably from Assembly Park, Tully, New York. Please contact me if you have any information you would like to share doctormom44@msn.com.



Barbara Cass Pamboukes article is continued on page 8

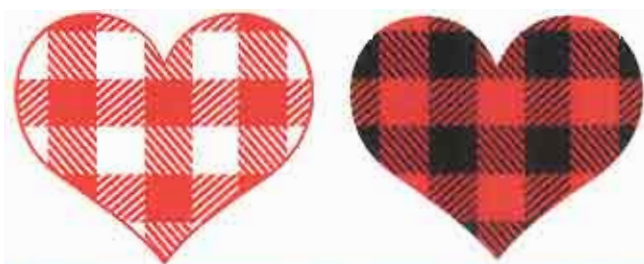
Hearts & memories, *continued from page 7*
dren

The Pamboukes and have three children: Joan, Christopher and Stephen all who live in Portsmouth. I am happily retired from nursing since June 2018.

I volunteer as the Jarvis Center Event Coordinator at St Nicholas Church. I enjoy membership in the Daughter's of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames, Philoptochos and Clan Henderson Society. I am a AHA CPR Instructor. When I am not volunteering I enjoy playing tennis, riding my red moped, working in my garden, baking or just hanging out with Vassili, friends and family.

In 1997, with the help of family, I published a family cookbook, *Spirits of the Seas*. Friends and family contributed their favorite "Grandma" recipes from childhood. I used Dad's vintage family photos and family photos from 1896-1996. We mailed a copy of the Cookbook to our family, which included distant cousins we had not seen in years. It was a wonderful experience shared with family. It reconnected individuals and families. One of my goals for 2021, is to create a second edition of the cookbook *Spirits of the Seas*.

The health of my friends, family and cousins are in my heart. Please keep yourself and your family safe: continue to wash your hands well and often, use hand sanitizer, stay positive and pray.



A ceilidh for the Stone Mountain Highland Games will be held at the Apothecary at 1910 Public House, in Lilburn, Georgia, the Saturday of the Games.

This is a farm-to-table restaurant in Old Town Lilburn.

The meal will offer the choice of 1 appetizer, 1 entrée and 1 dessert from a pre-selected menu.

As the restaurant offers seasonal fare, the manager indicated that the Fall menu would not be released until September and we'll send out that information once we get it.

Typically, offerings include chicken, shrimp and grits, beef, and fish dishes.

As close as we can calculate at this time, the meal should come to approximately \$37.25, including tax and gratuity.

Alcohol is NOT included in this price and would be an individual cost.

We request that checks be made out and sent to me NO LATER THAN October 3, 2020 – no exceptions. Monies received after that date will be returned.

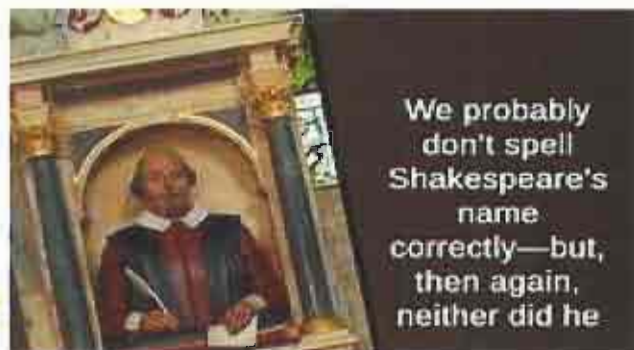
Thanks! **Suzanne Keifer, 4511 Ridgeland Drive, Lilburn, GA 30047**



Thirty-one years ago, on 12 March 1989, the WORLD WIDE WEB, which we now know as, "the Internet", was invented by **SIR TIMOTHY JOHN BERNERS-LEE**.



With thanks to **John Robert Mallernee**, CHS member who sent this in to *An Canach*.




It wasn't until the eighteenth century that people started to follow standard ways of spelling words.

In Shakespeare's day people spelled words as they thought they sounded, and that went for names too.

Shakespeare spelled his own name numerous different ways. In fact, over eighty different versions have appeared at one time or another including Shakespeyr, Shaxpeare, Shagspere, Shagsper, Shakspere, Shaxper, Shaxpere, Shakeshaft and Shakesper!

Ask me about



Clan Henderson Society's



Scholarship Program

Subject's Name:	Date(s) of story
Subject's Location(s):	Genealogy record (Y/N)
Your Name and address:	Your contact info:

Text:

Submitted by:

Page 1

CLAN HENDERSON HISTORY PROJECT

Leon Hicks, Clan Henderson Society President

This project is designed to collect the informal stories of families for posterity.

I have created the attached form for this purpose. I believe it is self-explanatory, but I'll provide a brief description below.

I am also looking for others to assist in the project, but at this point it is just me.

Hopefully the response will be sufficient to warrant the creation of an online storage capability and a hardcopy version to be stored in the Odom Genealogical Library along with other historical Henderson records.

Instructions:

Open the attachment, place your cursor in a box to the right of the box title, and start typing.

The subject box is for the principal character of the story

The dates of the story can be a specific date in the story. If you are describing a series of events, you may want to enter dates that bracket the event or events. If you are providing a summary of a person's life, you may want to enter birth and death

dates.

Subject Location(s): there may be several locations mentioned in the narrative. Listing these here may assist in future search efforts.

Genealogy Record (Y/N) is to indicate whether or not the person(s) being described can be or has been found in the genealogy record (Ancestry.com, etc.)

Your name and contact information are basically designed to help future researchers to know a little more about the person submitting the information.

Pick "Save As" from the "File" option above, and save it to your hard drive. You may include photos with your story as a separate attachment.

Fill out the information and send it to me as an attachment. I'll enter a reference number for future references to the data and return it to you. If you have additional information about the person or event, include this reference number.

My email is <leonhicks365@gmail.com>



If you don't recount your family history, it will be lost. Honor your own stories and tell them too. The tales may not seem very important, but they are what binds families and makes each of us who we are.

Madeleine L'Engle

If you shop Amazon, you could be donating to The Clan Henderson Society with every purchase!

For those of you that are unaware, Amazon will donate .05% of your Amazon purchases to The Clan Henderson Society.

The instructions to use this program are as follows:

Go to www.smile.amazon.com

- * Login or create an Amazon account if you don't already have one.
- * At the bottom of the screen you can "Pick Your Charitable Organization."
- * Type in Clan Henderson Society in the box and select search.

Once you have selected your charity Just shop and .05% of your before tax total will be donated.

Remember

You have to login to your Amazon account through www.smile.amazon.com

Not all items qualify for a donation to be made but most do.

It's that easy.

Ask your friends and family who already shop Amazon, to now shop Smile.Amazon.com and pick Clan Henderson Society as their charity.

Shopping Amazon any other way is just throwing money away. Every penny helps.

Staci Simpson



700-Year-Old William Wallace Letter Finally Reaches Scotland

A note of recommendation issued by King Philip IV of France and possibly carried by William Wallace will go on display this August at the Scottish Parliament.



A letter issued 700 years ago by King Philip IV of France on behalf of William Wallace has been returned to the iconic Scottish hero's homeland, authorities announced yesterday.

Experts think Wallace might have personally obtained the brief but official note while championing Scotland's cause in France in 1300.

Discovered in the Tower of London in the 1830s, the postcard-sized document sheds light on the freedom fighter's poorly understood whereabouts and activities between 1298, when he lost to the English at Falkirk, and 1304, when he resumed his rebellion.

"I am delighted to welcome the Wallace letter back to Scotland," Fiona Hyslop, Scotland's culture secretary, said in a statement. "It is one of the few surviving artifacts with a direct link to William Wallace and a fascinating fragment of our nation's history. To have it here in Scotland, where it can be viewed by the Scottish public, is very significant indeed."

Born into a family of minor nobility in the

1270s, Wallace became a key figure in Scotland's struggle for independence after Edward I of England invaded the politically unstable kingdom in 1296. By late 1299, Wallace and his allies had lost

control of the resistance movement and are thought to have traveled to Paris, where they hoped to make contact with deposed Scottish king John Balliol. They also presumably sought to gain the support of Philip IV, who had pledged that France would stand with Scotland against their shared English enemies.

Dated November 7, 1300, and penned in Latin, the French king's letter corroborates reports of Wallace's mission to France and hints at what he planned to do next.

In the note, Philip addresses a group of unnamed French royal agents posted at the papal court in Rome, writing, "We command you that you ask the Supreme Pontiff to consider with favor our beloved William le Wallace of Scotland, knight, with regard to those things which concern him that he has to expedite."

The nature of Wallace's intended business

Continued on page 14



Mistaken identity...

While he was on the run from the Hanoverians, one of the places where Bonnie Prince Charlie took refuge was Glenmoriston.

An Edinburgh merchant called Roderick Mackenzie was traveling through Glenmoriston when he ran into a band of redcoats.

Unfortunately for him, Mackenzie bore an uncanny resemblance to the errant prince, and the redcoats decided they had got their man.

When Mackenzie refused to cooperate, they shot him.

As he lay there dying, Mackenzie cried out, "Alas, you have killed your prince."

The redcoats promptly cut off his head and took



it back to Fort Augustus, convinced that they had killed Bonnie Prince Charlie himself, when all they had really done was murder an innocent merchant.

As a consequence, in Glenmoriston a cairn was raised in honor of the brave Roderick Mackenzie.

William Wallace letter, *continued from page 13*



with Pope Boniface VIII has puzzled scholars since the document surfaced 180 years ago, particularly since there is no evidence that he ever made it to Rome. It is also unclear whether the Scottish warrior carried the note himself, although a panel of academics who investigated it last March concluded that he probably did. Some experts, including British historian Geoffrey Barrow, have theorized that the letter was one of several "safe conducts" known to have been in Wallace's possession when the English arrested him in 1305; this could explain how the document wound up in London—the site of Wallace's brutal execution—in the first place.

Duncan Fenton of the Society of William Wallace said that his organization has been petitioning the British National Archives to move the letter to Scotland since 2005. "We have been cam-

paigning for years for this letter to be returned to Scotland and this is a fantastic result—not just for us, but for the Scottish people who will be able to see this document with their own eyes and feel a connection to William Wallace," he explained. "We do not have a lot of tangible links with Wallace as most of the documentation has been destroyed, so to have something that Wallace actually touched is a massive boost for Scotland." A long-term loan to the National Records of Scotland was granted in September.

The historic missive will go on display at the Scottish Parliament this August during Scotland's yearly celebration of politics, media and the arts. Its unveiling promises to be all the more significant because it will appear alongside the legendary "Lübeck" letter, the only known surviving document signed by Wallace and bearing his personal seal. Sent to Lübeck, Germany, after Wallace's forces defeated the English at Stirling Bridge in 1297, it announced that Scotland's ports had reopened for trade. "This unique exhibition will, alongside lectures and debates planned as part of our annual Festival of Politics, help visitors explore the documents' impact on Scottish history," said Tricia Marwick, the Scottish Parliament's presiding officer.



CONGRATULATIONS!



* **Tom Hendricks** has also been awarded the Order of the Chief with Distinction for 2020.

With so much excitement and happiness for you all, congratulations!



- * **Lauel Smith** has been awarded an Order of the Chief Award for 2020.
- * **Jim Smith** has been awarded an Order of the Chief Award for 2020.
- * **Laura German** has been awarded an Order of the Chief Award for 2020.

Nominee: Tom Hendricks

Award: Order of the Chief with Distinction **Nominated By:** Linda Hendricks

Tom Hendricks dedicated many years to the clan as Far South Regional Commissioner, followed as Vice President and then as President of the clan. During that time, he also assisted me with the Henderson Booth at the several games we convene in Arkansas and Oklahoma. He has also been a member of the Highlanders Pipes and Drums, the oldest pipe band in Oklahoma, serving a Bass Drummer and Drum Sergeant.

He represented the Clan Henderson with great pride. I would like to nominate him for the Chief's Award with distinction.

Nominee: Laurel and Jim Smith

Award: Order of the Chief **Nominated By:** Barbara Pamboukes

Laurel and Jim Smith have, on a number of occasions, stepped in on short notice and convened and/or represented Clan Henderson in many activities. Most recently, they have signed up to convene at least 4 annual events in the state of New York. Their enthusiasm and dedication reflects positively on them and the Society.

Nominee: Laura German

Award: Order of the Chief **Nominated By:** Linda Hendricks

Laura German is one of our newer members. Laura is a great help with the Henderson tent at our games. She and her husband Dale have stepped in several times to take over the booth when we've had emergencies.

She is now a member of the Highlanders Pipes and Drums with Tom and plays snare drums for them in addition to helping us with the local Celtic Club.

Laura is hard-working and dedicated to promoting Clan Henderson.

Hamish Henderson – A Clansman to Recognize and to Claim

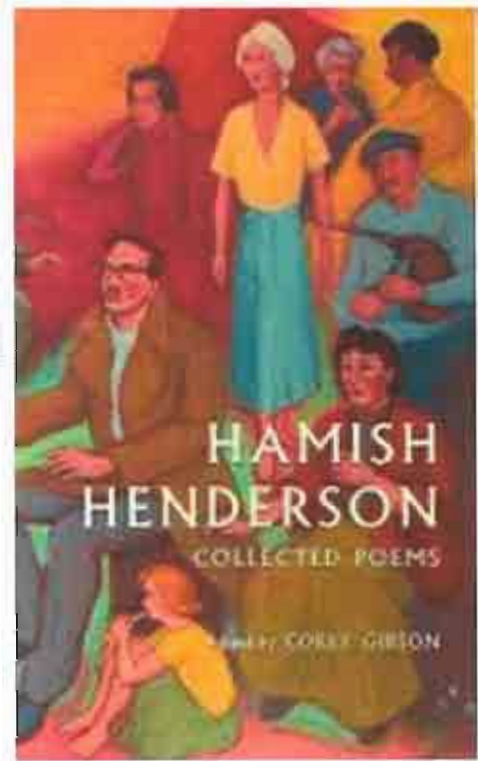
Mary Henderson

During my time of sheltering in place, I have found Alexander McCall Smith's novels in the *44 Scotland Street* series to be excellent company. This genial, likable writer spins tales about the everyday lives of quirky Edinburghers. As he goes along, he casually sprinkles his stories with offhand comments on Scottish artists, history, places, and traditions. Reading one of his books feels like an extended visit with a cherished and cultured Scottish friend.

I was deep into *A Time of Love and Tartan* when I ran across a reference to one Hamish Henderson, poet, who had decried against hatred. (One of the characters in the book was causing a lot of harm due to her hatefulness). McCall Smith then went on to describe our clansman as "...dear Hamish Henderson, that softly spoken good man, who believed we should treat each other with gentleness and love, understood the dangers of that (hatred) and will be birling in his grave....to hear some of the things people say to one another these days".

Well, I thought, who is this poet by the name of Henderson that I have never heard of? Turns out he was a man of so many gifts it is hard to even mention them all: linguist, poet, ballad writer, filmmaker, folklorist, translator, educator, social activist, a man of courage and a free thinker. He was a good man, beloved and admired by many for sure, and perhaps he was gentle in temperament as McCall Smith says, but he was also often controversial and never backed down from a fight he believed in. His obituary in the *Guardian* (Mar 11, 2002) even goes so far as to say "the new Scotland with its parliament, its renewed cultural confidence, its renewed dominance in British politics – owes more to Henderson than anyone else." That's quite a legacy for a gentle poet!

Hamish Scott Henderson was born in Perthshire on Armistice Day 1919. He was the son of a single mother, a WWI nurse, and a beautiful singer of Gaelic songs with a great facility for languages. Sadly, he was orphaned at 13 but recognized as brilliant, he was awarded scholarships to outstanding schools



and, at Cambridge, he majored in Modern Languages. He was fluent in six including Gaelic. Though Henderson started out as a peace worker, when he saw the evil Hitler was up to, he began using his language gifts working for the German resistance and helping smuggle Jews out of harm's way.

Then, when war was declared, he joined the Intelligence Corps and used his language facility to become an effective interrogator. He took part in battles in Africa, Sicily and even drafted the surrender order for Italy.

On the side, he began to write poetry and lyrics related to all aspects of a soldier's experience. It was in *Elegies for the Dead in Cyrenaica* he pens the words to which McCall Smith referred "...we should not disfigure ourselves /With villainy or hatred".

Henderson won the *Somerset Maugham* award for poetry in 1949 and, over his lifetime, many others.

Continued on page 17

Hamish Henderson, *continued from page 16*

After the war, he became enthusiastic and deeply involved in the Scottish folk revival. His mother had raised him in a small town, Blairgowrie, where tradition, song, story, tinkers, highland chiefs, a traveling highland dance master, Latin, and Greek were integral and joyous parts of his boyhood. Sadly though, due to her poverty, they were "cleared" from their house. They went to Ireland and SW England where she found employment. Her untimely death left him alone and so, during school holidays, he took to wandering all over Scotland - Glasgow and the Highlands, singing the songs, dancing the dances, relishing the traditions so much on the wane and in danger of being lost.

While in Italy, he was introduced to the portable tape recorder and saw at once that he could record the folk music of Scotland for posterity. He wanted from those early days to be an "a remembrancer" a poet of his highland people and of Scotland.

In 1951 he created the first Edinburgh People's Festival which led to the explosive development of Scottish and Celtic music. He also vigorously defended the value of folk traditions, but the communist leanings of some fellow organizers caused it to be shut down. In 1955 Henderson took another step towards his goal as preserver and defender-in-chief of folk arts. He and Callum McLean established the University of Edinburgh's School of Scottish Studies where Hamish remained until 1987.

In the '80s he made a series of award-winning documentaries about Robert Burns (to whom Henderson is often compared) and about storytelling in which he was also one of the stars.

Henderson was also an international activist. Though he loved Scotland first and foremost, he was interested in justice for the downtrodden everywhere. As a younger man, he was part of the German resistance, he allied with partisans in Italy, and was a crusader against apartheid in the 60's.

His famous ballad, a poem about inclusion for all, *Freedom Come -All- Ye* was written in South Africa.

In his later years, he championed Clydeside shipworkers, coal miners and fought hard for home rule with a Scottish Parliament. He was a fervent anti-racist and lobbied for gay rights way before these were popular causes. Over the years, he was

arrested for his activism, labeled as "communist", "socialist", "libertarian" by the establishment and ostracized for 50 years by the BBC as "a dangerous man".

Though he accepted many awards and honorary degrees during his lifetime, he rejected an OBE (Order of the British Empire) award offered by Margaret Thatcher's government in 1983. In one of the great ironies of his life, the BBC voted him "Scotland's Man of the Year" for doing so!

A man of the people, he preferred working man's pubs to the halls of the privileged and powerful though he was welcome at both.

Hamish Henderson died at 82 in Edinburgh on March 8, 2002. He was survived by his German wife, Katzel, and their two daughters. He has been referred to as the most important Scots poet since Robert Burns. Hamish Henderson is certainly a clansman to know about and to be proud to claim!

Continued on page 22



Hamish Henderson

A spider in a walnut shell?

During the 17th century, at the height of the plague, on June 27, 1645, John Craig of Mary King's Close was appointed gravedigger at Greyfriars churchyard.

A patent protection against the plague at this time was to wear a spider in a walnut shell around your neck. It didn't work. John died within a month.

An Canach, publication of the Clan Henderson Society, Inc. June 2020 Page 17

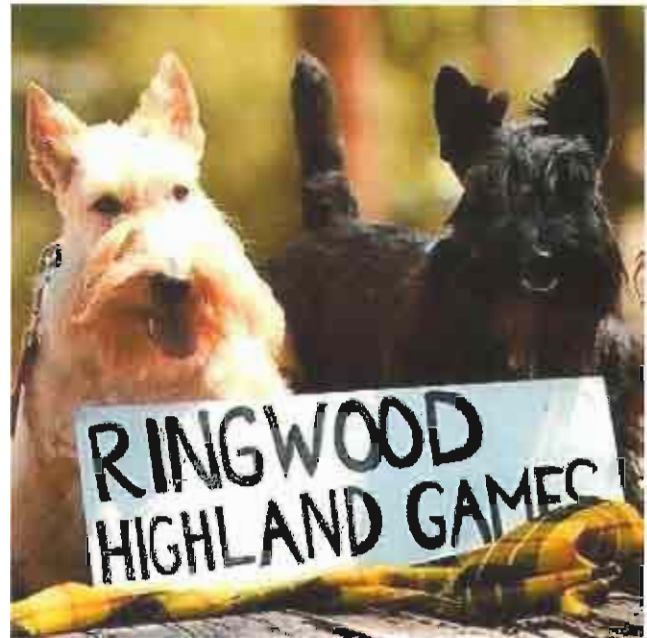
Ringwood Highland Games postponed for 2020

Jeff Henderson

The 2020 Ringwood Highland Games were scheduled to be held on March 29th, but postponed due to Covid19. The anticipated date is now Sunday October 11th 2020.

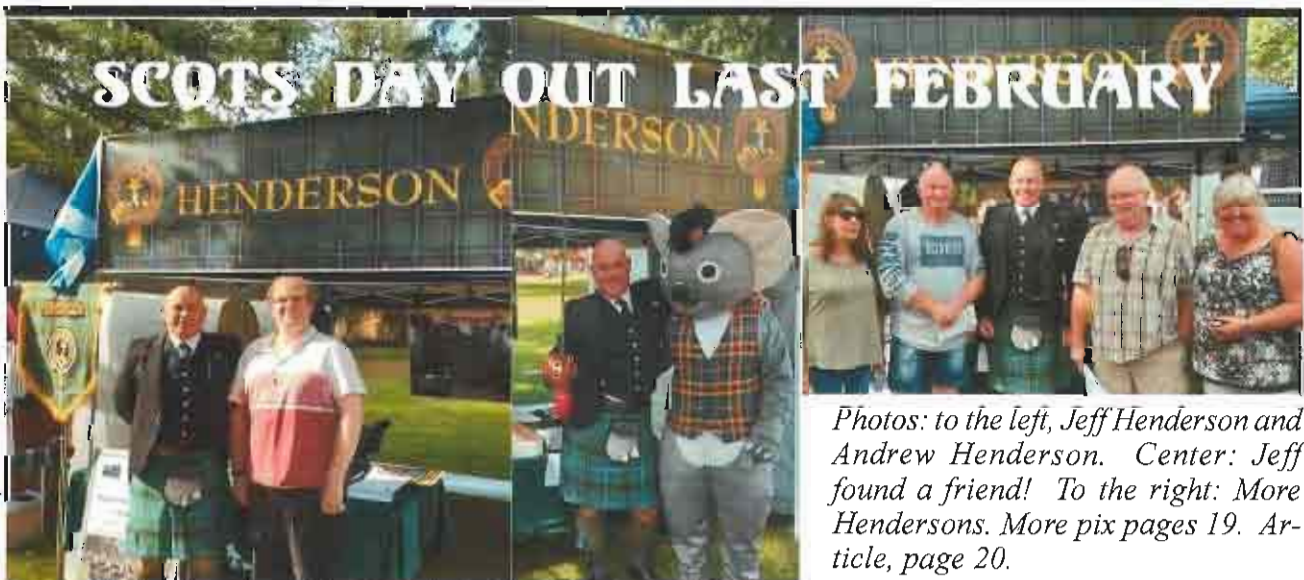
The postponement was a huge disappointment to the organizing committee, particularly to Jeff Henderson, who is the Clans and Vendor Co-ordinator for the event.

As an annual event commencing in 1966, it is the only metropolitan highland games held in Melbourne, Australia's second-largest capital city. This year's event was to be the best ever, featuring 27 pipe bands competing for the state pipe band championship award prior to competing in the national pipe band championship event.



Featuring the attendance of 22 Clan tents, Highland dance competitions, Welsh, Cornish, Irish, Folk and Country dancing displays, a Viking Village featuring traditional crafts, Heilan Coos, children's activities, Heavy Games for men and women, Martial Arts, community groups, retail and food vendors and much more, this was to be the best ever event so far.

Major contributions on behalf of Clan Henderson are Noela Hendersons \$2,000 sponsorship of the Highland Dancing competition and Jeff Hendersons \$500 sponsorship for the Wee Scots Light Games – see <https://ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au/2020-sponsors/>
See <https://ringwoodhighlandgames.org.au/>



Photos: to the left, Jeff Henderson and Andrew Henderson. Center: Jeff found a friend! To the right: More Hendersons. More pix pages 19. Article, page 20.

Hendersons persevere despite Geelong Highland Gathering postponement

Jeff Henderson

The 2020 Geelong Highland Gathering was scheduled for March 15, 2020, but cancelled due to Covid19. The event was to be held at Osborne Park, Swinburne Street in North Geelong Vic. Clan Henderson had scheduled to convene a tent at this event, so it was very disappointing to have to abandon our plans.

Tom and Georgia Henderson had arranged to travel the 1800 km to attend and, despite the event cancellation and flight disruptions, managed to make the trip and catch up with relations and arrange a Henderson meeting in lieu of the Geelong gathering.

Tom, Georgia, and Jeff Henderson enjoyed lunch at a local tavern and had a great time reviewing past gatherings and catching up on all the latest gossip. It was not quite the same as convening a tent at the gathering but we made sure 'The Hendersons Are Here!'

For more about the Geelong event, visit <<http://www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au/>>

*The
Henderson's
were here!
Scots Day Out
in Bendigo,
Australia*



Georgia and Tom Henderson with Jeff Henderson on the right in the front.



63rd commemorative

GEELONG HIGHLAND GATHERING

Sunday, 15 March 2020 - 9am-5pm

OSBORNE PARK, SWINBURNE STREET, NORTH GEELONG

2020 Western Victorian Pipe Band Championships
South Pacific Heavy Games Championships

- Highland Dancers
- Re-enactment Groups
- Massed Bands
- Scottish Fair & Market
- Scottish clan tents
- Children's Activities

ENTRY:

- Adult \$15
- Concession \$10
- Child U16 \$8
- Child U5 FREE
- Family \$40






ENQUIRIES TO

secretary@geelonghighlandgathering.org.au
www.geelonghighlandgathering.org.au

Find us on Facebook

The poster for the 2020 Games was ready!



Jeff Henderson

The 2020 Scottish Day Out festival was held on Saturday 29th February at Rosalind Park in central Bendigo, a major regional city in Victoria.

Renowned for its gold mining heritage, Bendigo offers a spectacular blend of heritage attractions and modern amenities – an ideal location for a gathering of Clans, Pipe Bands and a celebration of all things Scottish.

The day commenced with a march down the main street featuring pipers, drummers, dancers and clans. The weather gods had arranged perfect conditions which enticed many locals to attend.

Clan Henderson convened a tent, our first at-

tendance at this event. It seems there is a concentration of Henderson heritage in the nearby area known as Strathfieldsaye and several visitors commented on a strong Henderson presence in the area. This is something to be followed up at a later date.

Several Hendersons dropped by for a chat and were very pleased to see our presence at the event.

Membership and our clan history handouts were distributed to all who passed by.

Relationships with other Clans were renewed and a great day was had. Despite best efforts I missed out on all the whiskey raffles taking place but as always, there was a wee dram to be shared.

See more of the fun at: <<https://scotsdayout.com>>



Panama City Beach Festival and Games 2020 great success

Harry Keifer, Monica Rehberg of the Panama City Beach Festival staff and Phil Embry, CHS Convener. Ms. Rehberg is presenting Clan Henderson with the 3rd place Best Clan Tent at the games!

Congratulations!

More on page 21

Panama City Beach Scottish Festival back after missing a year due to 2019 Hurricane Michael!

Phil Embry, PCB CHS Convener

Well, after missing the Scottish Festival in 2019 due to Hurricane Michael (CAT 5), PCB held its Festival and Games March 7th, 2020 with full Highland swagger!! This was my first time as the primary convener so I brought in some experienced assistance from Harry and Suzanne Keifer (Lilburn, Ga) and our SE Commissioner Mary Lane Henderson. Boy did that make things run smooth (whew!).

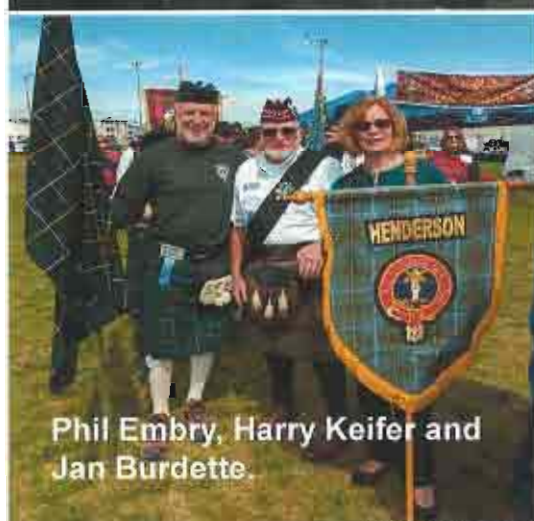
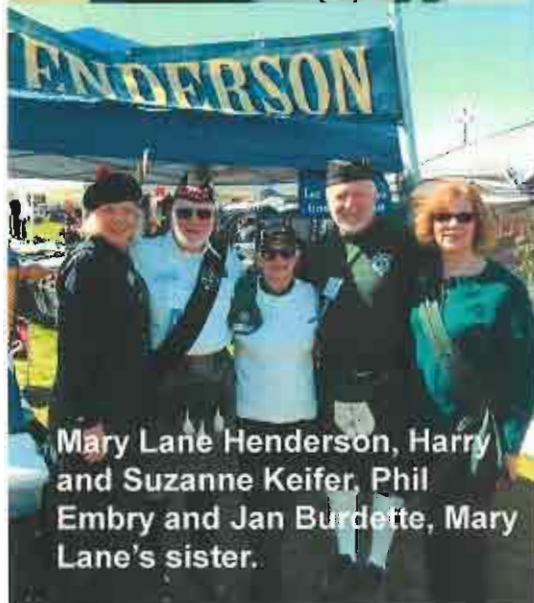
The Festival boasted 20 Clans, Games, Sheepherding, a Highland Coo, Scottish musicians, Bagpipe bands and Highland dancers. The crowds were plentiful, and vendors had a fine day. Plus, we had beautiful PCB spring weather ('60s-'70s), not bad for early March. We even had a classic car show on the grounds at Frank Brown Park.

We had a very productive day meeting many new friends and welcoming 3 new prospective "cousins" to the Clan. What really set us apart from some of the other Clans was Suzanne Keifer's help finding which clan our visitors may belong to. Fortunately, she had brought with her several books identifying surnames from Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. They were very appreciative and, when they discovered that they may be of Henderson lineage, they wanted to join the Clan! I've now purchased some of these books (used for a very reasonable cost) and am prepared for 2021!

We also had a "friend of the Clan," Fred Vito from Clan Skene, who helped with visitors and provided a few drams for the Henderson conveners. He convenes next to the Henderson tent at the Stone Mountain Games and was in the PCB area. What a Scot!!

At the end of the day, we Henderson's received another blessing when we were awarded 3rd Best Clan at the Festival!! Not bad for my first effort...what a glorious day for the Henderson's. We'll be here next year and work toward getting Best Clan at the Festival. Help us make it on the first weekend in March 2021 and enjoy the best beach in the US!!

Ye kinsman aye, Phil Embry

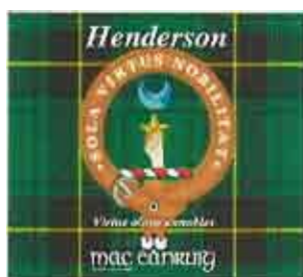


THE FREEDOM COME- ALL -YE

(final stanza)

So come all ye at hame wi' Freedom.
Never heed whit the hoodies croak for doom.
In your hoose a' the bairns o' Adam
Can find breid, barley-bree and painted room.
When MacLean meets wi'sfreens in Springburn
A' the roses and geans will turn tae bloom
And a black boy frae yount Nyanga
Dings the fell gallows o' the burghers doon.

From *Collected Poems and Songs*, ed by Raymond Ross
(Curly Snake Publishing, 2000)



Is there Interest in a 2021 Trip to Scotland With Clan Henderson?



We are often asked: "when are we doing another tour of Scotland?"



Bottom line: Right now, there is **NOT** a planned trip BUT
There has been some discussion about a cruise in UK waters.

To gauge interest, you can make some assumptions:

- Cost probably starting at \$1,300 pp
- Estimated it would be a 5-8 day cruise
- Probably in Aug, Sep or May.

IF, repeat **IF** you **MIGHT** be seriously interested

Please email your parties name(s) to:

Mark: hendo28@comcast.net

or

LaRhee: larhee.henderson@drake.edu



An EXAMPLE of
what a cruise
MIGHT(?)
look like.

REMEMBER: Not a commitment. This is only to see if there is interest.

A note from your editor

Your editor found a treasure on electricscotland.com! It is *The Gowrie Conspiracy*...and is a fascinating and detailed part of Scottish history that does feature a Henderson, even in a minor role.

In this "Year Without Games," we can take advantage of a bit of space in *An Canach* to learn something about our Scottish past and maybe something about some of our very own ancestors!

We may have to serialize this as it is quite long...however, it is riveting and would make a fantastic action movie!

The Gowrie Conspiracy

With many thanks to electricscotland.com

Scotland under the Stewarts was any thing but a peaceful kingdom, and its people were anything but law-abiding. Its administration was not characterised by integrity, but rather by corruption, immorality, and crime. Allegiance to the throne was disregarded in high quarters when any great scheme was afloat, and the effect of this was destructive of loyalty and of the general safety, and calculated to keep the people in constant excitement.

Conspiracies were common, and the lives of the lieges were never absolutely free from danger.

The conspiracy of Robert Graham and the Earl of Atholl against the life of James I was an inexcusable and treacherous act, in which the lives of all three were sacrificed.

The conspiracies against Riccio and against Darnley were equally inexcusable, and attended with much greater loss of life; while the conspiracy against the Queen of Scots was carried on for nineteen years, and culminated not only in her execution, but in the wholesale execution of a large number of the nobility and people.

In the reign of James VI the conspiracy against him by William, Lord Ruthven, and his followers, lasted for upwards of ten months, and some years afterwards what is known as the Gowrie Conspiracy followed suit. These do not exhaust the list, but they unfold the spirit of the times.

Such plots had one object only, and that was the aggrandisement of the men by whom they were put forward.

The condition of Scotland was pitiable.

It was financially in a state of chronic bankruptcy, and the English monarch was its chief creditor. The general poverty and insecurity were shown in

some of the sieges of Perth, the Ancient Capital, when on one occasion only one man in the burgh was able to give hospitality, and on another occasion, when the Provost and Magistrates forsook the town and ran away to escape danger.

With one exception, these cabals were directed against royal personages, a state of matters that disclosed a spirit of rebellion and treason amongst the leading men of the time.

Continued on page 26



James VI of Scotland

Welcome



New Members to the Clan Henderson Society! *One Hundred Thousand Welcomes!*

Mark Henderson, Vice President, Members, reports that in spite of the Covid-19/coronavirus pandemic, Clan Henderson has new members!

In the **Central Region** of the Clan Henderson Society, Matthew Correll of Olathe, Kansas and Peter Henry of Spearfish, South Dakota are new CHS members!

The **Great Lakes Region** welcomes Patricia DeAnne Henderson of Arlington Heights, Illinois and Arika Henry of Indianapolis, Indiana are also brand new CHS members.

Mid East Region welcomes Elise Clonts of Richmond and Aaron S. McKendrick of Bristos, both in Virginia; and Joan H.S. Rosenberg of Havre de Grace, Maryland.

Gardens, in Victoria and Michael Hay-Hendry of Greenwood in West Australia are Oceana's newest Henderson Clan members.

South East Clan Henderson is delighted to have Donnie Ray Henderson of Shelby, North Carolina; Eric Scott Henderson of Marietta, Georgia; Ethan Henderson and Gunnar Henderson, both of Lillington, North Carolina; Karen Henderson of Acworth, Georgia; Dorothy "Dixie" Howard of Trent Woods, North Carolina; Jimmy C. Palmer of Milton, Florida; Melinda Paris of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and Otis Jesse White of Castle Hayne, North Carolina join their ranks!

Joining the **South West Clan Henderson Society** are David D. Henderson of Pueblo, Colorado

New Members! When you get your new kilt or kilted skirt in one of the Henderson tartans, don't forget to have it "christened" at the Henderson Clan tent at the next Highland Games you attend. Your garment will simply be annointed with a bit of the "water of life."

The **North East Region** is delighted to have Melody Henderson Fountain of Ludlow, Massachussets; Pamela Hannon of Clifton Park, New York and Jamie Henderson of Amherst, New Hampshire as new members of the CHS.

Oceana will be a bit bigger with two new members! Suzette Henderson Clancy of Aspendale

and Russell Henderson of Lone Tree Colorado.

And, from the **United Kingdom**, comes Kevin Galke of Marlow, Buckinghamshire.

We are delighted to have each and every one of our brand new members.

We are all at least kissin' cousins.

Welcome!



Mark Henderson, Vice President, Members announces our members who have been awarded 5 year, 15 year and 25 year Recognition Pins for membership.

5-Year Recognition Pins go this time to Central CHS member Susan Miller of Boonville, Missouri.

From the Far South Region Carolyn Henderson Powers of Arlington, Texas is honored with a 5-year Recognition Pin.

Donna J. Begley of Charlestown, Indiana and the Great Lakes Region of the CHS is being mailed her 5-year Recognition Pin.

The Mid East Region has two 5-year Recognition Pin winners: Elise Clonts of Richmond, Virginia and Pamela Vick of Arlington, Virginia.

LTC (r) Henderson of Laceys Spring, Alabama from the Mid South Region is also a 5-year Recognition Pin winner!

5-year Recognition Pins go to Candee Minchin of Greensboro, North Carolina; William "Edd" Richburg of Charleston, South Carolina; and Deb Henderson Sierra of Williamston, South Carolina - all from the South East Region of the Clan Henderson Society.

15-Year Recognition Pins are being sent to Donna Lynn Henderson-Hoy Kansas City, Kansas

and the Central Region CHS; Marian Henderson of Pt. Pleasant, New Jersey; and Timothy A. Henderson of Manassas Park, Virginia both from the Mid East CHS Region.

15-year Recognition Pins are being awarded to Mid South's Annette Stokes of Henderson, Kentucky and James C. Henderson of the North East Region and Whitinsville, Massachusetts.

The North Pacific Region has a 15-year Recognition Pin winner too! It's Elizabeth Sheiman of Portland, Oregon.

Cynthia Henderson Ernst of Winston-Salem, North Carolina; Pamela Ashley of Travelers Rest, South Carolina and David Scott Henderson of Cumming, Georgia have also been awarded 15-year Recognition Pins!

25-Year Recognition Pins are presented to Linda MacDonald of Edwardsville, Illinois of the Great Lakes Region; Morrison Webb of the North East Region and Portland, Maine; Homer J. Henderson of Aloha, Oregon and Mary Anice Roe of Salem, Oregon and the North Pacific Region; Dolores Mariea of Sarasota, Florida and the South East Region; South Pacific Region has Shirley Sue Stiffler of Modesto, California and Janet Parsons of Aurora, Colorado as 25-Year Recognition Pin winners!

The Clan Henderson Society, Inc., EIN 64-181635B. CHS IS a 501(c)3 tax exempt organization within that meaning of the Internal Revenue Service

Everything, unfortunately, has not been recorded, and we can only criticise what appears in the official narrative.

The treasonable conduct of the nobles, which figures conspicuously in the historical record, is difficult to believe, but it seems beyond doubt; and not only so, but there is reason to believe that all of them entered into and promoted these unlawful schemes without the least hesitation.

For example, when James Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, undertook to murder Darnley if the nobles gave him as a *douceur* Darnley's wife, nineteen out of twenty nobles who had convened signed the bond.

The Gowrie Conspiracy was different from every other conspiracy, in respect that it was evidently a plot by a royal personage against a subject; it differed also from the conspiracies we have named, in that it was conceived and executed without any plan being disclosed.

Ruthven at Falkland, the drama at the dinner, the King's uncovered head at the window, the false report that he had returned to Falkland, the death-scene in the turret chamber, the prompt execution of those who could give evidence against the King, and the farce of the bogus depositions, leave no reasonable doubt as to the elaborate scheme which must have been "cut and dry," constructed and rehearsed, before the fatal 5th of August.

To most students of history it will appear mysterious why the negotiations for the deed were kept so quiet; so quiet, in short, that nothing about them has found its way into the State Paper Office or into any private collection.

Whether it was a conspiracy by Gowrie to remove the King, or a conspiracy by the King to remove Gowrie, has always been a debatable question.

Although Gowrie and his brothers were killed

and his estates confiscated, he had five married sisters who were evidently undisturbed.

One of these was married to Lennox, and died some years before the Conspiracy; but some of the other brothers-in-law ought to have aided Gowrie.

From whatever reason, history is silent Even that noble woman, Dorothea Stewart, Gowrie's mother, who in agony witnessed her two youngest boys being pursued and hunted to death by the

bloodhounds of James, was unable to communicate with them or to give them food, clothing, or shelter, and has left nothing on record to enlighten the seeker after truth.

The Ruthven family were extensive landowners in Scotland, and were also identified very closely with the town of Perth, while by marriage they were connected with various county families.

Their country residence was Ruthven Castle, in the neighbourhood of Perth; their town residence Gowrie House,

and the head of the family was usually Sheriff and Provost of Perth.

There does not seem to have been any crime recorded against any of the family until the reign of Queen Mary, when Patrick, Lord Ruthven, who died in exile, joined the rebels, became a violent conspirator, and was one of the murderers of Riccio.

He committed the unpardonable offence of striking Riccio with his sword in the presence of the Queen, and otherwise of grossly insulting Her Majesty, as is fully recorded in the Queen's biography.

For this she indignantly told him, after the murder, that she hoped "the Eternal God, who from the high heavens beheld this murder, would avenge her injury by rooting out him and his treacherous posterity."

Continued on page 27



Patrick Lord Ruthven

The Gowrie Conspiracy evidently fulfilled this prophecy.

His son succeeded as William, Lord Ruthven, and was afterwards created first Earl of Gowrie. He also became a rebel, and evidently was a man of the most brutal description, judging from his outrage on the Queen at Lochleven, when, in company with Lindsay, he compelled her to sign her abdication by brute force.

The Queen had no greater enemy. He was also one of the Darnley murderers, and during the reign of James he concocted and carried out what is called the Raid of Ruthven, for which he was afterwards beheaded.

The narrative of the so-called Gowrie Conspiracy, which has been frequently published, is the official version issued by the King's authority, and presumably written by him.

We do not think it can be accepted as a bona-fide report of what occurred, nor do we think the depositions afterwards taken before the Town Council and at Falkland are of the slightest value, because they are notoriously onesided and untruthful.

This narrative has done its work by manifesting to posterity that the atrocious deed was the act of Gowrie and his brother.

No narrative from the Ruthvens or their friends has been published, very probably because no one was left who was in a position to do it.

William, Lord Ruthven, first Earl of Gowrie, was the first Ruthven who owned Scone. He acquired it on the death of Patrick, Bishop of Moray, Commendator of Scone, about 1569, at which period it evidently belonged to the Abbey of Scone.

In 1580 John Ruthven, son of this William Ruthven, and third Earl of Gowrie, was by the King appointed perpetual Commendator of Scone in succession to Patrick, Bishop of Moray.

The connection of the Ruthvens with Scone would thus be limited to thirty years, as their estates were confiscated at the Gowrie Conspiracy in 1600.

The generally accepted narrative: On the 5th August, 1600, the King and his nobles were in the great park at Falkland, ready to mount and proceed to their sport.

This was between six and seven a.m. The King was surrounded by his hounds and huntsmen when Alexander Ruthven came up and craved an audience. Ruthven then declared that the evening before he had met a suspicious looking fellow out-

side the walls of St Johnstoun, with his face muffled in a cloak; and perceiving him to be terrified when questioned, he seized him, and on searching found a pot full of gold pieces under his cloak.

This treasure, with the man who carried it, he had secured in a small chamber in Gowrie House, and he now begged the King to ride with him to St Johnstoun and make sure of it, as he had not yet told his brother.

The King disclaimed having any right to money thus found, but on being told it was foreign gold he proposed to send a warrant to the Provost to seize it.

Ruthven protested against his doing so, as if the Magistrates got a hold of it he would never see it.

All he wanted was that the King would ride with him to St Johnstoun, see the treasure, and judge for himself.

The King said he would decide after the hunt was over. At the close of the chase he surprised his companions by telling them that he meant to ride into Perth and see the Earl of Gowrie, and he immediately rode off with Ruthven at a rapid pace.

During the ride Ruthven despatched **Andrew Henderson**, his chamberlain, to advise Gowrie that the King would arrive very shortly.

Gowrie, it would appear, dined at half-past twelve along with three friends. Shortly after, Ruthven arrived to announce the King's approach, and Gowrie and his friends and followers rose to



Ruthven/Gowrie Arms

Continued on page 28

their feet and walked to the South Inch to meet him.

The King had an escort of twelve or fifteen persons.

On coming to Gowrie House he called for a drink, and was annoyed at having to wait long for it, and also at the delay of an hour before dinner was served.

During this interval Alexander Ruthven sent for the key of the room leading to the gallery chamber, which room adjoined the cabinet where the King dined.

At the end of this apartment was another, which led by a stair into a circular room formed in the interior of a turret, and this room could be entered not only by the door at the end of the gallery, but by another door communicating with a back stair.

Soon after the King sat down to dinner, Gowrie sent for **Henderson** and told him to go to his brother in the gallery.

He obeyed, and was joined by Gowrie.

Henderson, beginning to get uneasy, asked excitedly what they were about to do with him.

Gowrie and his brother proceeded to the little chamber, made him enter, and locked him up.

Gowrie then returned to the King, who was sitting at his dessert, whilst Lennox and the rest of the suite were dining in the next room.

The King in a bantering way proposed Gowrie's health in a flowing bumper of wine.

Gowrie, calling for wine, joined Lennox and his companions, and at this moment Alexander Ruthven, when the King was alone, whispered to him that now was the time to go.

Lennox spoke of following, but Gowrie prevented him.

The latter then opened the door leading to his pleasure grounds and Lennox and others passed into the garden.

The King, believing some of his suite were following him, accompanied Ruthven up a stair and through a suite of chambers, all of them opening into each other, Ruthven locking every door as they passed out.

At last they entered the room already mentioned.

On the wall hung a picture with a curtain before it; beside it stood a man in armour; and as the King started back in alarm, Ruthven locked the door, put on his hat, drew the dagger from the side of the armed man, and tearing the curtain from the

picture, showed the well-known features of the late earl, his father. "Whose face is that?" said he, advancing the dagger with one hand to the King's breast, and pointing with the other to the picture.

"Who murdered my father? Is not thy conscience burdened by his innocent blood? Thou art now my prisoner, and

must be content to follow our will, and to be used as we list Seek not to escape, utter but a cry" (the King had crossed to the window), "make but a motion to open the window, and this dagger is in thy heart!"

Said the King: "As for your father's death, I had no hand in it: it was my Council's doing. And should you now take my life what preferment will it bring you? Have I not sons and daughters? You can never be King of Scotland, and I have many good subjects who will avenge my death."

Ruthven seemed struck with this, and swore he neither wanted his blood nor his life.

Continued on page 29



Gowrie House, Perthshire

Said the King, "What want ye if ye seek not my life?"

"But a promise, Sir," was the reply.

"What promise?"

"Sir," said Ruthven, "my brother will tell you."

"Go, fetch him then," said the King, and he assured Ruthven that until his return he would neither call out nor open the window.

Ruthven commanded **Henderson** to watch the King, and departed, locking the door behind him.

The King being alone with **Henderson**, asked him if Gowrie would do him any mischief, to which **Henderson** said he would die first "

Open the window then," said the King, and while **Henderson** was in the act of doing so Ruthven entered the room, and swearing there was no remedy, seized the King by the wrists and attempted to bind him with a garter which he had in his hand.

The King was too much for him, and wrenching himself from Ruthven, exclaimed he "was a free prince and would never be bound,"

Henderson at the same time forcing away the cord.

The King made for the window, when Ruthven seized him by the throat with one hand and thrust the other into his mouth to prevent him giving alarm.

James dragged his assailant to the window and thrust his head half out, though Ruthven's hand was still at his throat, and cried out, "Treason, help, Earl of Mar, I am murdered."

Ruthven dragged him back, and attempted to draw his sword, which the King prevented by grasping his right hand.

Henderson supported the King, and, unlocking the door of the room, stood trembling while the King and Ruthven engaged in a desperate

struggle.

A report was got up by the Ruthvens that the King and his suite had left the Castle by a back door and were riding over the South Inch on their return journey. (This was an ingenious device to entrap the Ruthvens.)

In a few minutes the King's cry of treason was heard, and some of the nobles saw the King's face at the turret window with a hand on his throat.

Sir Thomas Erskine immediately seized Gowrie, with the words, "Traitor, thou shalt die: this is thy work," but was felled to the ground by Andrew Ruthven.

Lennox and Mar rushed up the great staircase to the hall, but found the door locked.

John Ramsay, one of the King's suite, ran swiftly up the back stair to the top, dashed open the door of the Round Chamber with his foot, and found the King and Ruthven still wrestling, the King with

Ruthven's hand under his arm, while Ruthven grasped his throat.

Ramsay struck Ruthven, the King calling out to strike low, as he wore a doublet.

Ramsay then stabbed him twice on the lower part of the body.

The King thereupon pushed him backwards through the door downstairs, when Erskine and Herries despatched him with their swords.

The King was hurried into an adjoining chamber, when Gowrie arrived with a rapier in each hand, rushed along the gallery, followed by seven of his servants with drawn swords.

He had seen the bleeding body of his brother, and swore that the traitors who murdered him should die.

He attacked Erskine and three companions, who were all wounded, but they fought with deter-

Continued on page 30



Sir Thomas Erskine

mined energy.

Some one called out that the King was slain, and Gowrie, as if paralysed with the news, dropped his weapon, while Ramsay, who noticed this, slew him instantly with his sword.

After all was over, the King knelt in company with his nobles and thanked God for their deliverance!

There are some highly ridiculous touches in this narrative. For example, if Alexander Ruthven wanted to assassinate the King, he had a sufficient opportunity of doing so when he got him into the turret-chamber.

Had Ruthven been the conspirator, he would have despatched the King when he had him in that position, and the door of the chamber locked.

Ruthven told the King that "he killed his father and must therefore die," and thereupon wrestled with the King; finally he put his hand in the King's mouth, and attempted to tie him with a cord or garter.

Could anything in the circumstances be more grotesque? If Ruthven decoyed the King into the turret-chamber in order to kill him, is it likely he would waste time discussing the situation?

It is important to notice that it is not even hinted that Ruthven attempted to slay the King, or that he had any intention whatever of doing so.

The argument proceeds, "What want ye?" said the King, "if ye seek not my life?"

"But a promise, Sir," was the reply.

"What promise?"

"Sir, my brother will tell you."

"Go, fetch him, and in your absence I will neither cry nor lift up the window."

All this seems the merest fable.

For Ruthven to leave the apartment at so critical a moment was ridiculous, if he decoyed the King there in order to assassinate him; but if the King was the conspirator, it was an ingenious touch of imagination, because the King by that means might secure the Ruthvens in the chamber, and in that compromising position the King was not so likely to be

suspected, while the Ruthvens would the more easily be despatched; that is practically what happened.

In the matter of the conversation in the turret-chamber, we are surrounded with difficulty.

Assuming that it never occurred, we have the problem of three armed men being there, supposed by one writer to be three servants of Gowrie's, bribed.

This is unlikely, and in the circumstances seems impossible to determine.

There is nothing but the King's statement for a muffled-man being there and his pretended ignorance of who that man was, and charging three men with it who all could prove an alibi, suggests the idea that the King was withholding the truth.

It does not seem probable that any man could be there who was unknown to the King.

Evidently it was a device of the King to throw suspicion on the Ruthvens. **Henderson's** evidence may be put aside as quite unreliable, but it is generally supposed he was the muffled man.

It is stated that Ramsay, Herries, and Murray, went up to the turret-chamber as soon as they saw the King's head at the window. This is again the King's narrative, and the question may naturally be asked how far it is true.

We do not presume to answer it.

There is no doubt, as one writer states, that if the King had been killed it would have ruined the Gowrie family, seeing the King had openly gone into Gowrie House, and Gowrie would have been accountable for his protection.

We are told, as a matter of fact, that the opinion in Perth, from the day the deed was done, was that the King was the conspirator; and that the death of Gowrie was denounced as a cruel murder.

Considering that Gowrie was a highly popular Provost of Perth, and that there was no independent evidence, outside the King's narrative, that he was concerned in the conspiracy, the people of Perth were bound to entertain suspicious feelings towards the King.

We will continue this story to the end. It is quite long and while reading it myself, I thought it could be a movie, but, it is TRUE!. Thank you to Alastair McIntyre and electricscotland.com.



Go CHS Scottish Athletes

Bryan Simpson
Athletics Director, CHS

As we reach the midpoint of the 2020 Games and Festival season we are all feeling the frustrations of life without the games. There have only been a hand full of events that took place in January and February before COVID slammed the door closed.

As frustrating as that has been it's given time to evaluate the way forward.

How can we come out of this situation stronger, better, and excited to compete for and promote Clan Henderson Society?

To all CHS Athletes - Find a place where you can still practice while keeping your distance from others. Watch videos of the greats like Daniel McKim and Spencer Tyler. Friend/ Follow Facebook pages like Mike Beech, Throwers, Shag, NASGA, and other games-related pages for tips and fellowship with other Highland Athletes.

This virus will pass and we need to be ready to take the field when it is over.

Remember that we have a Facebook page that is for sharing the information and photos of our games of our athletes from around the world. Like it and visit it often. Post any games related information or pictures on it. Tell non-Henderson athletes about it. It can be a resource for all games athletes.

Lastly, reach out to me if you have questions or need information.

To all CHS Commissioners and Conveners - Educate yourself on the games. I have attended and competed at many festivals all over the US. I visit many Clan tents and ask lots of questions. One thing I have learned is that most people working the Clan tents (All Clans not just ours) know very little about the games. They are unsure of the rules, the weights of the implements used and many don't even know the names of the events.

When I ask questions like "How can I become a competitor and compete in the games" I get a

range of answers from "Go ask someone who is competing" to my favorite, "I think you go tryout for one of the teams".

How are you going to get someone excited about the games if you cannot give them basic information about the games or how to get involved?

Our Conveners do a fantastic job of speaking with people about Scottish Heritage and History. Now I ask that you put some time into learning more about this part of our heritage and history.

CHS has an advantage that most Clans do not have. An Athletics Director. If you have questions reach out to me. Ask anyone who has made the mistake of getting me talking about the games. I am passionate about the subject and can talk all day about them. Consider investing in a 2 stone or 4 stone weight to keep at your tent to show people just how heavy the weights being tossed on the field really are.

There will be an email sent out to each of you with the basic rules and information as an attachment you can print and use as a guide when trying to answer questions.

To all CHS Members - When you are at a festival go to the athletics field. Look for any athlete wearing a Henderson kilt. Try to speak to them. Thank them for representing Clan Henderson. Ask them if they are a member of Clan Henderson Society. Every year I find a Henderson athlete who has no idea that CHS even exists. Try to get them to join CHS by directing them to our Clan tent, Facebook Pages, and the CHS website.

Many Clans athletes will tell you that their Clan has no idea they even exist.

Clan Henderson Society loves our athletes and we want them to know we do appreciate them.

We all have an important part to play in promoting our Clan and Clan Henderson Society and I thank each of you for all you do.

A query from CHS member, Weeden Nichols

JAMES HUNTER (as a result of very superficial research and a lot of jumping to conclusions), in his Scottish Exodus, misidentified my "**LONG JOHN**" (**LONG JONNY**) **MACLEOD/McLeod** (early records show both "Mac" and "Mc") as the son of "**COMMODORE**" **JOHN** and brother of **DANIEL** in Marlboro County, SC. That **JOHN MCLEOD** (brother of **DANIEL** and son of **COMMODORE JOHN**) actually died in Marlboro County as a young married man, without issue. **JAMES HUNTER** was apparently misled by erroneous information in *M.C. Kruemcke's MacLeod Genealogy*, undated, which apparently was the source of the conflation of the identities of **LONG JOHN** and the **JOHN MCLEOD** who was the son of **COMMODORE JOHN**.

My "**LONG JONNY**" traces back to the part of Anson County, NC that became Richmond County. He was the son of **JOHN MCLEOD/MACLEOD JR.** and **MARY** _____. (It's always "John and Mary, isn't it. **LONG JOHN'S** wife was **MARY** also - **MARY BETHUNE**.) We would have to know the name of **LONG JOHN'S** father's father, to confirm the "Jr." Anyway, "**JOHN JR**" was the immigrant.

Will of **JOHN MCLEOD**, April 18, 1812, Ch. Eight, p. 263, Abstracts of Wills, Richmond County Wills - CR. 082.801 -NCA.

RACHEL MCLEOD AVERA'S granddaughter, **ARDIS WARD**, transcribed recollections by her grandmother: **JOHN MCLEOD** was born in Scotland and couldn't speak English when he came to this country -- and, as best I remember, came to this country with the **BETHUNES**. I know they were related from **UNCLE LAUCHLIN'S** letters, as he said as much...My father's father was **JOHN MCLEOD** and died in N.C. as my grandmother **MARY MCLEOD** was a widow when she came to this state [Mississippi]. Be this as it may, my father's mother died near us in Greene County and is buried by my own mother **MARY BETHUNE** in the old Presbyterian Churchyard near Leakesville, Miss. My father and mother

were married either in the last part of 1811 or very first of 1812 as their oldest child **ISABELLA** was born in January 1813. My mother had only two children when she left N.C., **ISABELLA**, and **ALEXANDER**. I am not sure but I think my father moved south about the year 1815 or 1816. Stopped one year somewhere in Ala. My father could make anything with wood or metal, was no common man. Extensive land, cattle, and slave owner, a member of the legislature for fifteen years, and a member that framed the first constitution of this state. I now have in my possession a prayer book presented by the Seat of Government to him, a collar button he wore to America, also his watch which is a fine Swiss watch...."

Anson County still has the records of the part that became Franklin County, and the Register (Registrar?) of Deeds was very helpful with land records. **JOANNE S. HUNTLEY**, Anson County Register of Deeds, kindly searched Anson County records for me. On 14 Feb 2005, I received from **MS. HUNTLEY** transcripts of five deeds involving **JOHN MACLEOD**, dated in 1774, 1774, 1775, 1802, and 1811. **LONG JOHN** would have been too young to be the **JOHN MACLEOD** involved in the three deeds of the 1770s; however, he could have been the individual named in the 1802 and 1811 deeds. If, as purported, **LONG JOHN'S** father, also **JOHN MACLEOD**, died in 1775, then the two deeds of 1774 and the deed of 1775 could have been attributable to him. The 1770's deeds used waterways or trees or stakes as reference points, but the 1800's deeds referred to the towns of Sneydesborough and Rockingham. Rockingham was definitely in the part of Anson County that became Richmond County.

I had hoped that a spouse or other family members might be mentioned in the deeds, as is often the case (and was the case for some of the other parties to the transaction);

Please reply **Weeden Nichols**
redolaf@gmail.com

Researchers find William Wallace's "House"

William Wallace, 13th century "freedom fighter" and his 16 fighting men supposedly used this campsite (or fort) named "Wallace House" to attack the British in small skirmishes. The site is in Dumfries and Galloway council area.

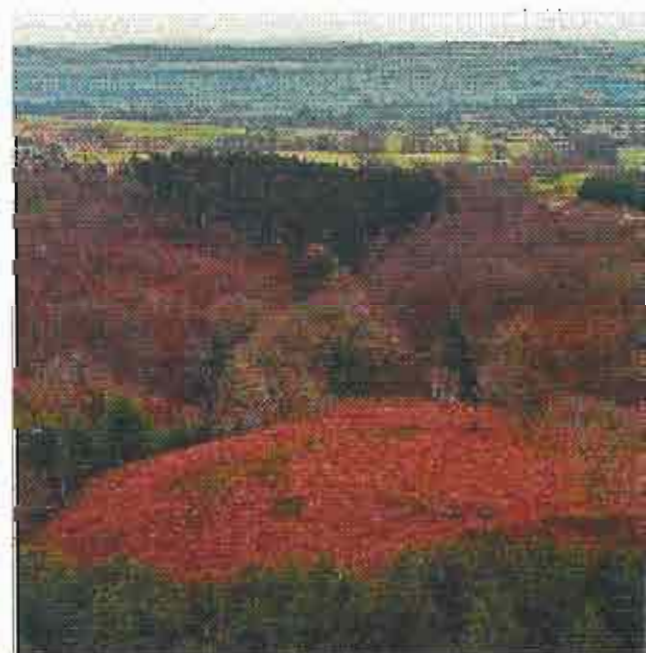
Forestry & Land Scotland archaeologist, Matt Ritchie, conducted an aerial survey to give us a glimpse of the site (pictured below). Just think, Wallace and his men occupied this site over 700 years ago!

Some think the fort was the staging ground for plans to capture the Scottish castle of Lochmaben in 1297. The castle held a strong defensive position high enough to have a clear view of the lands south of the castle.

Historian Michael Brown (University of St. Andrews, Scotland) describes Wallace as a "patriotic hero whose only concern was the liberty and protection of his fellow Scots." Wallace was fed up with England's treatment of Scotland and he rallied Scotland's fiercest patriots (Jacobites) to defeat the English at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. However, that was the last victory for one of Scotland's most famous patriots as he was ultimately caught, imprisoned, and executed for his "crimes against England."

Because Wallace's movements were unknown after Stirling, Ritchie's team took hundreds of pictures and cobbled them together to form the images into the model above.

It would be fantastic if this fort were actually built by Wallace and his men



A lot gone... a few still holding on

Joyce Henderson

These are the cancelled events (that I know of) in the North Pacific Region:

Montana

- ◆ Bitterroot Celtic Games cancelled
- ◆ Yellowstone Highland Games cancelled

Washington

- ◆ Skagit Valley cancelled
- ◆ Enumclaw cancelled
- ◆ Prosser cancelled
- ◆ Tacoma cancelled

Oregon

- ◆ Portland cancelled

Idaho

- ◆ Treasure Valley cancelled

Alaska

- ◆ Palmer (State Fair) cancelled

Those still scheduled are:

- ◆ Kootenai Games (Libby, MT) July 17-18
- ◆ Flathead (Kalispell, MT) September 11
- ◆ Bellingham, WA June 6
- ◆ Umpqua, OR August 22-23
- ◆ Albany OR 9/19

Hall- Henderson wedding

Complete with Swords and Parade

Suzanne Henderson Emerson

South Pacific Region Commissioner,
Clan Henderson Society

On October 5th, 2019, Dennis Henderson and Mary Hall wed at the St. Peter Lutheran Church in Modesto, California.

Mary wore a flowing lace dress with long train and carried a yellow rose bouquet, while Dennis wore his ancient Henderson kilt, green Prince Charlie jacket, ruffled shirt, and Henderson fly plaid.

They were accompanied by Dennis' son Eamon, in Henderson kilt and blue Argyle jacket, and by Mary's daughters, Betty and Lily, in long blue dresses and yellow floral crowns perfectly coordinating with their Henderson sashes. The touching ceremony was performed by a celebrant who clearly knew the happy couple well, as they are actively engaged in this church community.

Piped out of the church by piper Elisha, the assembled family and friends proceeded to the reception area to enjoy an abundant meal and celebrate with wedding cake.

Many of the guests were attired in Henderson kilts, kilted skirts, or sashes, including Clan Henderson cousins Kathi Lewis, Jordan and their entire family, Shirley Sue Stiffler, and the Emerson family. Teenager Katherine Emerson said, "It was fun to see a wedding with so many Scottish touches," which included Scottish thistle tucked into each boutonniere.

This is usually about the end of a wedding story, but ... this celebration has just begun.

"I've never seen so many swords at a



Back row: Mary Hall, Dennis Henderson and Eamon Henderson. Front row: Betty and Lily Alberti.

wedding."

After wrapping up the reception, Mary distributed to the women yaluchtas, scarves with jingles attached.

Dennis explained that as their home is only a few blocks away, we all get to be in a wedding parade from the church to their home.

Eamon with his battle axe served as body-guard for the parade, supported by at least seven others equipped with swords or battle axes. The rest of the family and friends, with

Continued on page 35



yaluchtas to jingle as we walk, fell in behind them, with Elisha on the bagpipes piping us on.

Once at the house, we discovered the beer tent, jumpy house, pretzel truck, and entire outdoor lounge. This was a great time for more casual conversations, photos with friends, and generally celebrating. Once night fell, the live music and dancing started, pausing later for a roasting of the happy couple. The celebration continued late into the night, and good fun was had by all.



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Clan Henderson's Website!
<clanhendersonsociety.org>



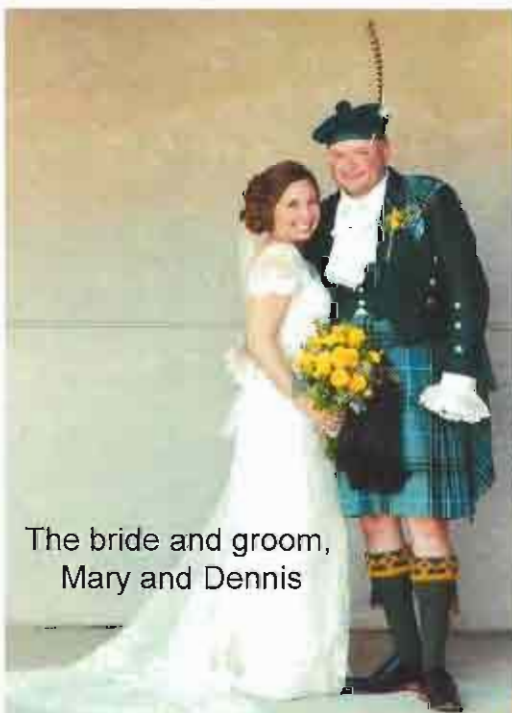
Our new Webmaster, Charm Henderson Russell, says, "We feature the list of games, your area commissioners, how to apply for genealogy, member of the month and weekly news of Scotland. We have new pages for Scotland, Aussie Branch, and Canada as well as lots of history movies.

"Take a look yourself and maybe you'll get more ideas."



Beth Gay Freeman,
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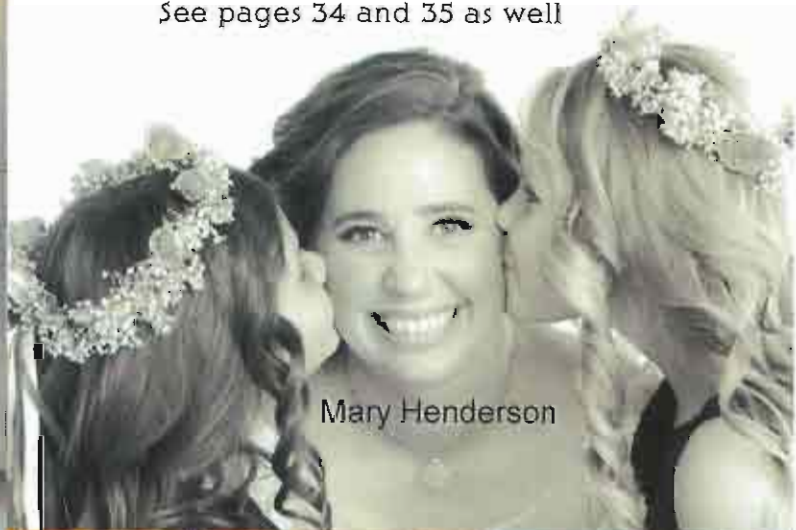
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The bride and groom,
Mary and Dennis

Hall - Henderson Wedding

See pages 34 and 35 as well



Mary Henderson



The parade to the reception