



Volume II, Number 2 Section A *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* February 2008

MTSU Fellowship honors Buchanan Nobel Prize winner in economics

Mary Reeves, Gannett Tennessee, CBSI

Murfreesboro, TN - James M. Buchanan knew he didn't want to spend his life plowing, so, the Rutherford County farmer's son accepted an economics fellowship, graduated from college and went on to win the 1986 Nobel Prize in economics. “

“The availability of that fellowship is what guaranteed I went on to become an economist,” said Buchanan, who is 88.

Buchanan was on hand at Middle Tennessee State University on a Friday afternoon last September at a ceremony for the inauguration of the “Buchanan Fellows.”

The Buchanan Fellowship, an honors program for 20 incoming freshmen, offers four years' paid tuition, as well as a specialized course of study and other academic opportunities, such as international study, including the Rhodes and Fullbright programs.

James M. Buchanan admitted to a full crowd that if his own fellowship had been for English or mathematics, he might have gone on to be a literary critic or a math teacher.

The establishment of the Buchanan Fellowship will have a significant impact on the university, according to MTSU President Sidney McPhee.

“We are very proud of these students,” he said.

“Their average of ACT score is 32 - the most you can make is 36. Only 2% of the students in the nation score 32 or higher. Their average high school GPA is 3.8 out of 4.0. The majority have earned straight A's throughout high school. These students could have selected any university in America - and they are here.”

Fifteen of the 20 students are from Tennessee.

During the ceremony, they received gift bags, and in each one was a crest designed for the Buchanan Fellowship, based on the heraldic crest of the Clan Buchanan.

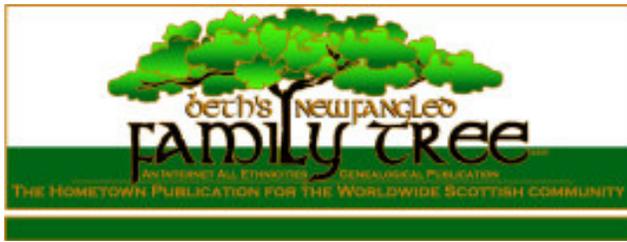
“There is a Latin phrase here,” said Philip Mathis, Dean of the Honors College Board. “The translation of the phrase is ‘Brighter hence the honor.’”

Jeff Whorley, who was recently named the chairman of the Honors College Board and who is Buchanan's nephew, urged the new Buchanan Fellows to take the time to read “uncle Buck's works and learn “what he believes and why.”

Whorley said, “Every generation has an obligation to do something - or not to do something - for the next generation.”

With thanks to *The Buchanan Banner*. Write Buck Buchanan, 330 Vine St., Vacaville, CA 95688.

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*With queenly hugs and
catly kisses for
Valentine's Day
and always...*

*Love,
Nanna The Wonder Cat,
Sylvester, Peggie Hair, Bicket,
Ruby Lou Begonia,
Beth, Tom and Alastair*

Please tell everyone about
Beth's 
**Newfangled
Family Tree!**

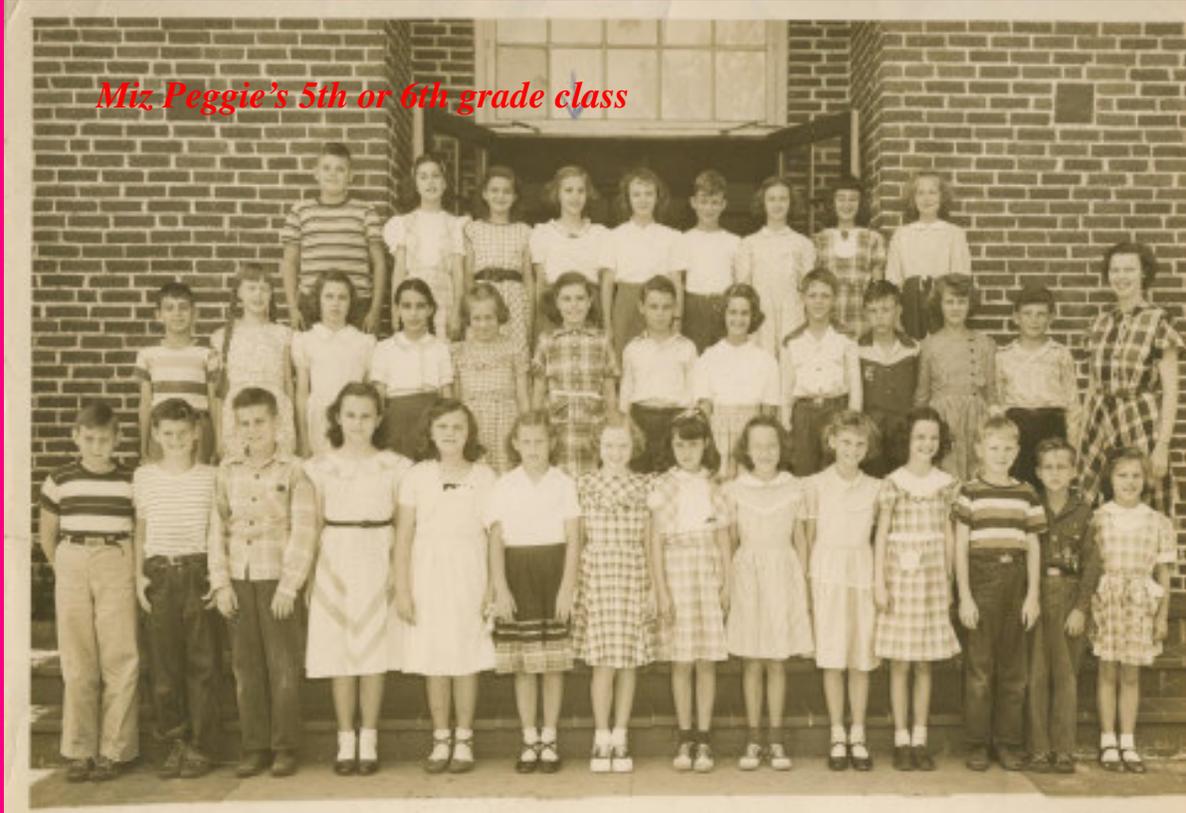
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Miz Peggie's 5th or 6th grade class



A letter from your editor.... on enduring friendship

Valentine's Day brings thoughts of loved ones, both romantic images and thoughts of those we cherish because of longtime friendships.

The oldest friends in my life date from grammar school.

What wonderful memories I have from Miz Peggie McCubbin's 5th and 6th grade classes and those classmates who would remain friends always.

I wonder if Dwight remembers the report we gave when I talked him into wearing a yellow sheet so he could be a "Sheik of Araby?"

I wonder if Billy remembers playing piano for our class and Mrs. Land's class to square dance or the time we walked down the sidewalk singing at the top of our voices?

I wonder if Barbara remembers our girlish

giggles?

Admiral, too, is an always and forever friend! Miz Peggie has been beloved since I was ten. Sadly, she suffers from Alzheimer's...but when we go to Jacksonville for the Northeast Florida Highland Games next month, we'll go and visit and I'll tell her that I love her.

I had email from Billy this week and Barbara called on the phone.

My maiden name, Palmer, made Martha and me neighbors in home room in 7th grade. No matter what else happens, we are still there for each other. You all know Martha too - as she writes as Marti for this publication. I hear from Marti all the time!

Joe owes me more than 50 boxes of choco-

Continued on page 4



Beth ca 5th or 6th grade

Dave, Mike, Gene, Carl, Barney, Jerry, Bobby...Sharron, Billy, John...all of us played in the band, but are still like family. For years, I carried an old black and white photo of a bunch of us somehow on the roof of our school.

Does anyone remember why we were posing on the roof?

Our band class produced some talented folks for sure. John is acknowledged as the premier trombonist in the world...and Billy has performed with the Met in NYC for enough years that he's planning now for retirement. Dave retired as Dean of Visual and Performing Arts from a well-known college and Mike is famous in his field...and all were successful in their chosen work and all have remained like family.

I've always been so proud of all of our band members as there were teachers and musicians and professionals who came out of our class.

Best of all, many of us have remained friends ever since. I hear from most of these old friends too.

I read somewhere that if you can count just two or three real friends in your life, you are fortunate. By those standards, I am the most fortunate person in the world.

Friends Made During Life have to be remembered here. June, such a talented artist always; Carol who gave me the crystal locket I still wear all December every year; Jackie - my dear friend who loves me in spite of all my warts; Jeri and her Drysdale and Susan who have made me a true part of their family. And there're Ludlow and Nancy, Jennifer, Susan, Timmy C., Karen...Jeanne, Carolyn, Susan, Stephanie and Donald. Each per-

Enduring friendships, continued from page 3

late covered cherries! He gave me a box each Christmas all through school...but stopped when we graduated. I want my candy, Joe!

son has taught me good and important things. Each friend has been there when I desperately needed a hand to hold.

My Friends From Radio Days include such sweet spirits. So many of them have already gone on - Cappsie, Tom and Wes and Big Daddy. I'll not ever forget C. Jim and all the crew in Ocala.

Gary (Oink!), Teri and Woody and Jinx...and Beth² from Moultrie were with me during scary times. I always know they are there for me. Thank you for standing up for me and thank you for being there in times "thick and thin" - and in my case, they were mostly the "thin" variety.

I cannot begin to write down all of the wonderful people in the Scottish community who have become like family to me.

Last June, many of you shared the happiest day of my life at Glasgow, Kentucky. To have such a significant event in my life surrounded by a huge circle of friends was magic. Thank you.

Our Scottish community has supported my work for almost twenty years....and I must thank each and every person who has become my friend over that time. I would not be here today without you. You all know who you are. Please let me hug you next time we meet!

Last October, I told Tom, "I don't know anyone here. It will be hard to go through my hip surgery without friends around."

Tom said, "You have more friends than you think." He was right.

My neighbor, Lorraine, was wonderful as were Betty and Patsy and Karen and Ginger. Jeff - my goodness - Ruby Lou is still at your house with the rest of your horses! Coleen and the folks at Friday night music - all so kind. Thank you all.

And, Tom. Sweet Tom!

So, on Valentine's Day and every day, please know that I appreciate you and love you all.



*Love,
Beth*

Why Would Americans Want Armorial Bearings?

David Robert Wooten, Executive Director The American College of Heraldry

One of the more consistent threads that run through various internet newsgroups – and one of the more common questions I am asked in general conversation - revolves around Americans' seeming obsession with all things heraldic. Why in the world would a country who “threw off the yoke of oppression” over 200 years ago want to gnom onto an archaic system of armor, shields, helmets, etc., that is still prevalent throughout the United Kingdom and, in fact, the greater part of Europe?

After all, when America's founding fathers laid out the ground rules for the new country, they went out of their way to deny the use of armorial bearings by the new country's citizenry, presumably to “de-noble” the whole class strata prevalent on the other side of the Atlantic. All well and good – at least for the first few dozen decades.

This is not to say that heraldry was non-existent in the Colonies – in fact, heraldry flourished in the new United States, albeit without government sanction or regulation. Most of the early gentry proudly displayed their ancestral arms – essentially defeating the purpose (at least in public display) of “leveling the playing field” as far as the founding fathers' concept of “all men [being] created equal” was concerned. Armorial bearings continued their “institutional” purpose, representing colleges, businesses, organizations and the like –

all without the regulation of a sovereign power. And perhaps that is precisely what allowed heraldry to flourish in the United States – freedom to display what you wanted, where you wanted.

That being said, the lack of regulation also allowed heraldry (in the United States) to go off on some rather ludicrous tangents. Examples of “bad” heraldry are rampant throughout American institutions – most notably in the government itself. States' and cities' “armorial bearings” are quite often examples of lumping as many elements as possible into one achievement, often with gaudy end-results.

In the 230 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, there have been several attempts to establish heraldic institutions

in the United States. More often than not, these organizations – all non-official – were established by wealthy businessmen who wished to establish private “clubs,” with the exclusivity of armorial bearings as their membership restriction. As one might expect, these entities usually fell by the wayside not long after their inauguration.

However, in the late 20th century, there was a seeming groundswell of renewed interest in heraldry by Americans. Perhaps it was tied to the bicentennial celebration, or perhaps it was merely coincidence. It can doubtless also be shown that the greater availability of genealogical materials,



Continued on page 7

Lyon(s) Families Association offers new website

The Lyon(s) Families Association has a new website. It has been designed to provide you with new search features, photogallery, and discussion board links. We invite you to give it a try and give us feedback on what you like, what you think needs changing, and what additional features you'd like to see.

The URL is <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~lyonfamilies/>

Please email lyonsfam@comcast.net with comments and questions.

The Robert Burns Society of Charlotte (NC) invites you

The Robert Burns Society of Charlotte, North Carolina, invites you to join in celebrating its 54th annual Burns Night on Saturday, February 9, 2008 from 6 PM until 10 PM at the Charlotte Country Club, 2465 Mecklenburg Ave., Charlotte.

You'll enjoy an evening of music, poetry and merriment, honoring the Bard of Scotland.

The evening will begin with cocktails in the Pine Room and then progress to the ballroom for the ceremony of Piping in the Haggis. Traditional toasts will be offered through a special four-course dinner which includes a taste of haggis on each plate.

The Immortal Memory will be given by former Charlottean, Donald F. Macdonald of

Edinburgh. Donald, as you may know, is a writer, speaker, entertainer, co-founder of the Grandfather Mountain Games. He has published America's Braemar, which will be available for autograph and sale during this evening.

Burns' songs will be performed by Renee Henry-Harvish; and there will be games and poetry recitations.

Dress is formal Scottish wear, black tie or suit and tie. Tickets for the event are \$75 per person. If you would like complete information, contact Scotty Gallamore, President, Robert Burns Society of Charlotte immediately at 704-552-2196 or skgmore@aol.com.



*Nice to see green on a snowy, winter day!
Wakulla Springs, Florida!*

especially with the rise of the internet in the last decades of the last century, piqued the interest of individuals wishing to track down their ancestry – and it was there that they would have run across heraldry for perhaps the first time. In any event, books on the subject became more available - they had obviously always been around, including Eugene Zieber’s 1895 work *Heraldry in America*, but now they were being reprinted and available (often in volume overrun editions) to the general public.

My own interest in heraldry was fostered at a young age by my parents, who also ignited a genealogical fuse that resulted in many years of my own research work on my various family lines and the ultimate publication of a modest tome on my various family lines. Through that research, one of my maternal lines strayed into the Bouchier family, which is where I first ran into armorial bearings. The next step is one which is too-often leapt upon by the novice heraldist – I took all 4 of my primary lines (maternal and paternal grandparents), grabbed a copy of Burke’s *General Armory*, looked them up, and began furiously researching and rendering a quartet of arms which I painted and presented to my parents (who displayed them in their homes for years afterward). How I decided which of the specific arms to latch upon out of each surname escapes me, but I’m sure my logic followed that of most arms-hungry neophytes who happen upon Burke’s and say to themselves, “Aha! My name is Smith. I’ve found my arms! Now which one looks the handsomest? That’s the one I’ll use...”

Further, in my own genealogical research, I came across a couple of tomes by predecessors trying to link my own surname to famous historical individuals – and these works were “common” as

the definitive works on the Wooten line. As it turns out, my own surname developed from Watton (Northamptonshire), and while there are numerous Wootens throughout England, I was not related to them (which brings up the subject of “bucket shops” and the problems that arise from their existence – more on that later). It took a fellow genealogist to source out the true lineage of our family, rather than the numerous books individuals had published erroneously linking us to a Dr. Wooten

who served as a surgeon at Jamestowne. As it happened, this famous surgeon, to whom everyone desperately wanted to link genealogically for the sake of notoriety, served one year in the Colonies, then returned to England *decessit sine prole legitima* – a bit difficult to descend from someone who had no children. And the previous “researchers” compounded the problem further by adorning their publications with the arms of a Wooton of Kent (wholly unrelated to our lineage or the Jamestowne surgeon).



Thankfully for me, the American College of Heraldry was established in 1972 as part of the renewed interest in the subject. Albeit a small organization with little public exposure, it nonetheless took a more serious “regimented” approach to the matter, attempting to establish rules and standards of practice for registration of arms. It should be noted that, in its infancy, the College toyed with the idea of “granting” arms – or at least calling the registrations they produced (without government oversight) grants. The notion was dropped in short order, as the founding members of the organization saw a need for international “recognition” of their work – or at least that the newly-formed organization was not attempting to lay claim to more than its humble origins would allow.

The College later had the advantage of being

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February 9 - 10 - Scottish Ramble at <http://www.scottishramble.org> Write The Uncommon Gatherings, 180 George St., Excelsior, MN 55531.

February 23 - Northeast Florida Scottish Highland Games & Festival, contact <http://www.netflgames.com> at PO Box 16253, Jacksonville, FL 32245.

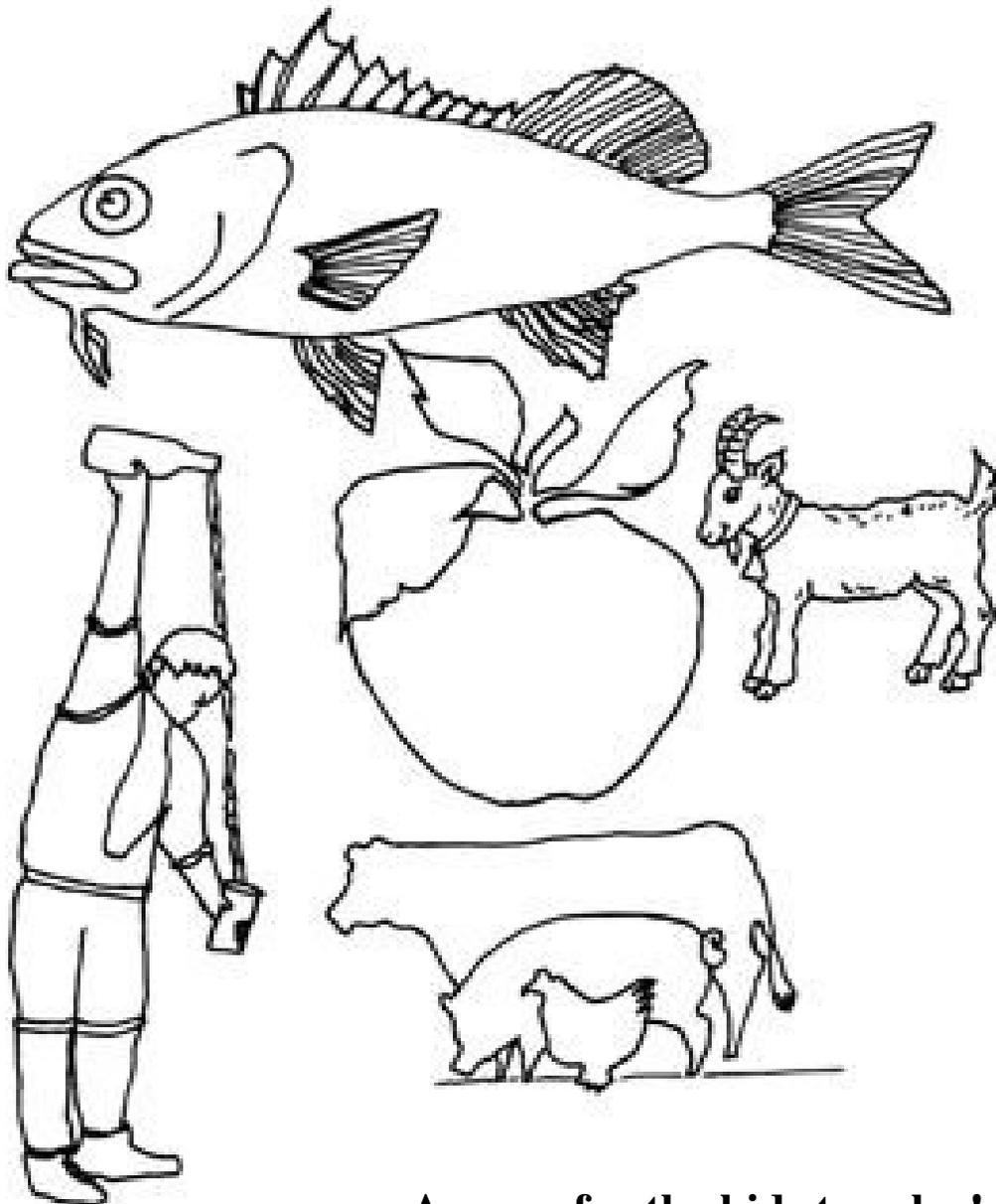
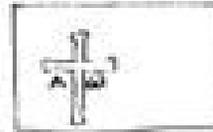
March 2008

March 8-10 - Scottish/Irish Faire at <http://www.chspb.org> or write PO Box 7144, Midland, TX 79708.

March 29 - Sarasotsota Highland Games at <http://www.sarasotagames.org> or write PO Box 282, Cape Haze, FL 33946

COLORING BOOK OF CELTIC LANDS: **ASTURIAS**

Asturias is located on the northwest corner of Spain, just east of Galicia. This area is called "Green Spain" because it receives a lot of rain. Orchards and farms are plentiful. The #1 crop in Asturias is apples, and Asturian cider ("sidra") is famous. The way waiters in restaurants pour the cider is famous, too. They lift the bottle over their head, and pour the cider into the glass, held in their other hand, without looking at the bottle! Asturias is also known for its fine fish, beef, and poultry.



A page for the kids to color!

With many thanks to Jude McKenzie and Barbara Law from the Northern Arizona Celtic Society. Don't miss their Highland Festival each fall!

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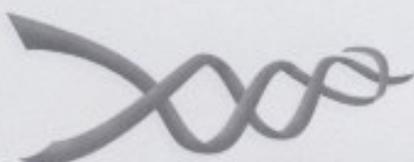
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Does anyone have any information on the Angus District of Scotland family whose surname is "**GEEKIE**"? **COUPER/COUPAR ROBINSON GEEKIE** was born 6 May 1861 in Perth, Perthshire, Scotland. He died 15 October 1916 in Charleroi, Washington County, PA. His wife was **ISABELLA/ISABELLE MELVILLE BROWN**, born ca 19 August 1863 in Lethendy or Scone, Perthshire, Scotland and died 10 October 1939. Their children were **MARY HENDERSON GEEKIE**, born 25 February 1885 in Dundee, Angus County; Scotland; **MARJORIE DOUGLAS GEEKIE** aka "**MADGE**" born 13 March 1887 in Dundee, Angus County, Scotland; **NELLIE B. GEEKIE** born 07 June 1890 in Springfield, Hampden Co., MA, USA; **ISABELLA/ISABELLE "BELLE" BROWN GEEKIE** born 24 March 1892 in Chicago, Cook County, IL, USA; **JAMES R. GEEKIE** born 1894 in Chicago, Cook County, IL, USA; **IDA GEEKIE** born 3 August 1896 in Chicago, Cook Co., IL, USA and **HARRY COOPER GEEKIE**, born 1 August 1898, Chicago, Cook Co., IL, USA.

Daughter, **ISABELLA/ISABELLE**

"BELLE" BROWN GEEKIE born 24 March 1892 died 17 February 1921 in Charleroi, Washington County, PA. She married **JOHN EDGAR "ED" WILSON**, born 8 October 1892 in Fallowfiled Twp., Washington Co., PA and died 7 April 1955 in Charleroi. They were married 21 January 1916 in Charleroi. Their only child was **ELLA LORAIN WILSON**, born 20 September 1916, who married **JOHN BARTH "BRIT" COLVIN**, born 13 January 1917 in Fallowfield Twp, Washington Co., PA. He died September 1984 in Monongahela, Washington Co., PA. Their children were a stillborn daughter born in 1942 and **DARCI RENEE IRENE WILSON** (Birthname **JANE COLVIN**) born 12 December 1946 in N. Charleroi, Washington Co., PA and **NANCY IRENE COLVIN** born 11 June in N. Charleroi.

If you have any information on any of these families, please contact Darci Wilson, 210 Crest Ave., Charleroi, PA 15022.

Deadline for next issue,
February 15, 2008

Flowers of the Forest

Hazel M Donald, Pasadena, California, was a long-term active member of Clan Donald USA. The daughter of a father born in Dundee, Scotland, she has a lifelong affinity for people and things Scottish. She especially enjoyed the many CDUSA AGMs she and her late sister, Beth, attended. She passed away last November at age 82. She was interred at the Hollywood Forever cemetery next to her sister and wearing her Donald tartan. Her memorial service minister and piper both wore kilts for the ceremony.



Madge Buchanan Jensen, the mother of Mardy Jensen, passed away last September in Gunnison, Utah. She was born April 23, 1920 in Centerfield, Utah, the daughter of Archibald Lorenzo and Ann Geneva Ahlstrom Buchanan. She loved her heritage and was proud of anything Buchanan. She wore her tartan and clan pin everywhere.

Frances Jane Gordy Wroton, born in Columbus, Ga., April 28, 1923, to James Scarbrough and Frances DeLoach Gordy, died from a heart attack January 15, 2008, St. Simons Island, Ga. She had a sister who survives her, Mary Ellison Gordy McMurria of Bradenton, Florida and a brother, Stephen Ellison Gordy, of Dalton, Georgia who died in 2006. Frances was a member of the Methodist faith for the past 21 years, was an active member of Wesley United Methodist Church at

Frederica on St. Simons Island. She was a graduate of University of Georgia at Athens and completed graduate studies in social work at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She began working in child welfare with the American Red Cross in Jacksonville, Florida and later was child welfare officer for Richmond County in North Carolina for 12 years.

She is survived by her husband

of 58 years, James Carlisle Wroton Jr. and their daughter, Jane Gordy Wroton Fraix, living with her husband, Michel Fraix in Duluth, Georgia. Jane had a brother, James Carlisle Wroton III who died in September 1990. Burial will take place at Oglethorpe Memorial Gardens Cemetery at 10 a.m. Monday. In lieu of flowers, it is the family's suggestion that friends should donate to the church or charity of their choice.

Jim and Frances Wroton have been friends of your editor's for many, many years. They were active in the Scottish community and also very active in their local genealogical society on St. Simons. Bless your heart, Jim. Your beautiful Frances will be missed forever.

Please remember to let BNFT know if you have a Flower for the Forest.

*Just send an email to :
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suspended.

President John F. Mauldin writes, "Tennessee Highland Games had another successful year in October and ended the year in the black. Therefore, it is with sincere regret that we must tell you that the Tennessee Highland Games has been suspended."

You may visit <http://www.hotsc.bravehost.com> if you wish further information.

Scots reunited March with your clan in Scotland's Historic Gathering

On July Twenty-fifth, 2009 you could join an unprecedented international gathering of 8,500 clanspeople and march from Holyrood Palace, along Edinburgh's historic Royal Mile, and take your exclusively reserved seats high on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, where a spectacular Clan Pageant will unfold. This thrilling experience will be the culmination of a weekend during which the capital's rugged Royal Park will become host to Scotland's largest ever Highland Games.

The Games will showcase competitors from traditional disciplines such as piping, Highland dancing and the official 2009 World Heavy Athletics championships, along with a host of contemporary musicians, top-quality vendors of local produce, and Scottish genealogists.

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CVSS First Footing photos available on Internet

Janet Wiley writes that she attended - and enjoyed - the Catawba Vally Scottish Society's First Footing celebration this past January.

She says she took lots of photos - which may be found at <http://jawileyphotography.smugmug.com/gallery/4098714#238941335>

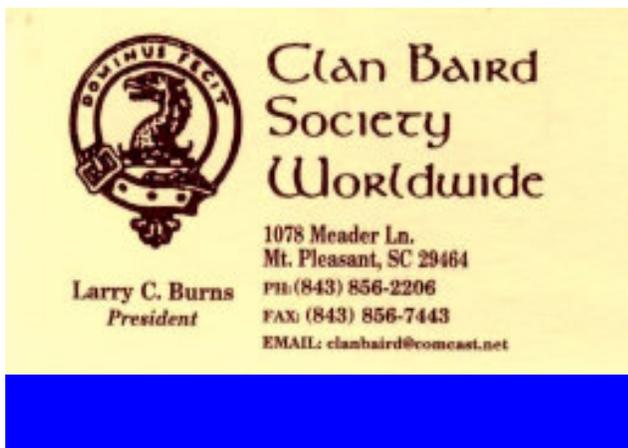
Robert Burns' Phillis/Philly identity discovered by Lockhart member!

American Clan Lockhart Society member, Estelle Pringle

My Alexander Macdonald Lockhart's mother, Philadelphia McMurdo Lockhart married to Norman Lockhart was the Phillis of several of Burn's poems. I have seen a book of Robert Burns poems, in Scotland, that substantiates this 'claim to fame' so to speak.

Also I received this email below several years ago from Robert McMurdo [edited]: John McMurdo was a friend to Robert Burns. McMurdo and his family lived at Drumlanrig Castle, where Burns was often a visitor. "The eldest daughter Jean (1777 - 1839) and her sister Philadelphia (1779 - 1825) were taught to play the piano by Burns' friend Stephen Clarke, whom he persuaded to come down from Edinburgh. Philadelphia, more familiarly known as "Phillis", was a noted beauty and inspired several of Burns' songs: 'Phillis the Fair', 'Philly and Willy' and 'Adown Winding Nith'..." 'Adown Winding Nith' is a favourite of mine.

With thanks to The American Clan Lockhart Society newsletter, *The Talisman*. To contact Clan Lockhart, please visit <<http://www.ClanLockhart-USA.org>> Here's just a sample of Burns' poetry.



*Awa wi your belles and your beauties -
They never wi her can compare!
Whae'er has met wi my Phillis,
Has met wi the Queen o the Fair.*

*Adown winding Nith I did wander,
To mark the sweet flowers as they spring.
Adown winding Nith I did wander,
Of Phillis to muse and to sing.*

*The daisy amus'd my fond fancy,
So artless, so simple, so wild:
'Thou emblem', said I, 'o my Phillis'
For she is Simplicity's child.*

*The rose-bud's the blush o my charmer,
Her sweet balmy lip when 'tis prest.
How fair and how pure is the lily!
But fairer and purer her breast.*



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Tallahassee (FL) Highland Games & Celtic Festival returns in April 2008

The Tallahassee Highland Games & Celtic Festival returns on April 19, 2008 at the North Florida Fairgrounds in Tallahassee, Florida.

Volunteers Needed: On Saturday, February 16, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. we will be holding a Volunteer Sign-Up Day at the North Florida Fairgrounds. If you and your friends and family would like to participate in the Festival as an “insider”, please come by and sign-up. Over the last year, we have received countless emails from people who want to help. We, in fact, need you. Please pass this on to as many people as you can. Come join us.

For complete information, visit www.tallahasseehighlandgames.com or call 850-894-6270 - although at this writing there is no way to leave a message or purchase tickets or passes. Eric King is the Sponsors and Patrons chairman, so you might email ericking@comcast.net

Festival Schedule Whisky Tasting Seminar - Friday, April 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$20 per person. Contact Jack Maden. **ADVANCE RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED for ALL attendees.**

Sponsors' Reception (Private for Sponsors & Patrons only) - Friday, April 18 at 8:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds following the whisky Tasting. Heavy Athletic Competition begins - Saturday, April 19 at 9:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies - Saturday, April 19 at 12:00 noon

Closing Ceremonies & Awards - April 19 at

5:00 p.m.

Ceilidh (party) Featuring the international renown Seven Nations Celtic rock band - April 19 at 5:30 p.m. at the Fairgrounds. Purchase Ceilidh early at the Information Kiosk for \$10 until 2:00

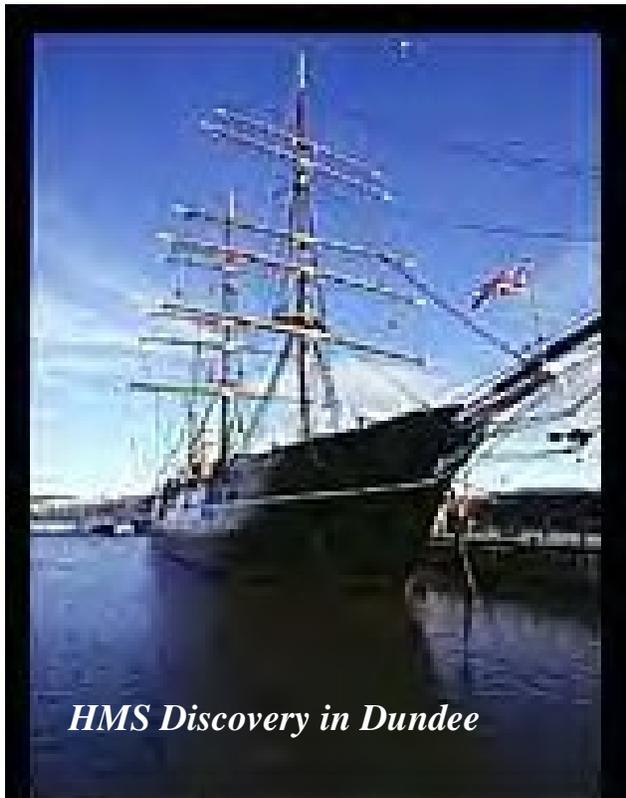


The Clan Stewart Society at the 2004 Tallahassee Highland Games & Celtic Festival

p.m. After that all Ceilidh tickets will be sold at the door for \$15.

Attractions * Highland Games- Heavy Athletic Competition * Five Bagpipe Bands * Scottish & Irish Dancers * Clan & Society Exhibits * Scottish & Irish Merchandise Vendors * Highland Cattle * Border Collie Sheep Demonstration * Labrador Retriever Rescue Club * “Hand-on Scottish Cricket * The “Wild Highlanders” Ancient Weapons Show * Scottish Re-enactor Encampment * North Florida British Motoring Club Entertainers The entertainers will be performing throughout the day and at the Ceilidh. * Seven Nations Celtic Rock Band * The Wyndbreakers * The

continued on page 17



HMS Discovery in Dundee

Discovery leak finally fixed!

Six Nations One Soul, The Newsletter of the Celtic League American Branch, (CLAB, Box 20153, Dag Hammarskjold Center, NY, NY 10017) recently wrote that the Dundee, Scotland ship which was made famous by its historic voyage to Antarctica, had a slow leak the entire trip and ever since. After trickling for nearly a hundred years, preservationists believe they have finally cured the leak with an application of the traditional hull dressing known as “Black Pudding,” compounded of coal tar and other ingredients, applied while the old vessel was recently put up in dry-dock for an overhaul.

Today, a museum ship home in Dundee Harbour, the Discovery is also said to be haunted by a presence believed to be that of the unfortunate Robert Scott, who died with all his men on a later journey to the South Pole in 1912.

Tallahassee Highland Games & Celtic Festival returns April 2008, *continued from page 16*

McIlroys * The Tinkers * Davey Clark * Bob Valentine — Scottish Comedian

Heavy Athletics The heavy athletics competitions will begin at 9:00 a.m. Be sure to come early to get a good seat. Director of Athletics, Mike Bearden is planning a workshop for anyone interested in learning about and perhaps ultimately participating in future games.

Pipe Bands If the skirl of the pipes always call you, you won't be disappointed. Participating this year are the following bands: * Duncan McCall Pipe Band * Emerald Coast Pipers * Panama City Pipe Band * Marion Co. Pipes & Drums * Tallahassee Pipe Band – Host Band In addition to the open ceremonies parade, the bands will be performing impromptu “challenges” throughout the day in several locations. Keep your ears and eyes open for these performances. Hear the pipes like you've never heard them before!

Tickets, Sponsors, & Patrons This year, we are offering perhaps the best admission program we've ever had. General admission tickets will be available prior to the Festival, at locations that will be announced in a few weeks, and at the gate at great prices. When you consider just an evening at the movies, this all-day entertainment is a great value. Better still are our Sponsor All-Access Pass Programs. This All-Access Pass Program not only gives you entrance to all the events but offers other perks as well like VIP parking, Celtic Club membership, your name in the program, and your identification as someone entitled to special status as a Games & Festival Sponsor.

General admission at the gate: Adults - \$12; Seniors - \$10; College Students - \$10; School Students - \$6; Children under 6 - free. Sponsor All-Access Pass Programs: Highlander Benefit Package . . . \$150; Deadline: March 31st Passes include the following items and events: 2-All-Access Festival Badges, 2-Commemorative Festival Pins, 2-Festival Sponsor Reception Invitations (Friday eve.) RESERVATIONS REQUIRED! 1-VIP Parking pass; 2-Whisky Tasting Invitations (Friday eve.) RESERVATIONS REQUIRED! Ceilidh access for 2; Celtic Club access for 2 and Name(s) listed in Festival Program



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listed in Stephen Friar's *A Dictionary of Heraldry*, which became a bible, of sorts, for those who could find it – usually in the reference section of most larger public libraries. It was here that I first ran across the American College of Heraldry, during my aforementioned furious heraldic “research,” and decided to write to them to register arms which I was quite certain would be easily recorded in my name. I had the fortune of meeting – through correspondence – Dr. David Pittman Johnson, the then-President and life blood of the organization, who politely pointed out the error of my ways, and directed me in the correct course to a final registration of arms.

From its very small beginnings, College membership grew, and a regular newsletter began to be circulated – “The Armiger's News,” still produced today and in its 28th year of publication. The quarterly newsletter details ongoing registrations with the College, as well as articles on the subject of heraldry – historical and contemporary, American and international – submitted by members as well as heraldic experts worldwide.

So back to the original question - why would Americans want armorial bearings? Primarily, because they are proud of their heritage, and whether they are of German, Spanish, Hungarian, English, Irish, whatever descent, heraldry is a tie to their past – or at the very least a nod to their origins. Most individuals who contact our organization have come to understand (through the growing wealth of solid information about heraldry available in print and online) that the odds of their being entitled to bear historically-granted arms are essentially nil. Thus, with a little explanation, they are pleased to be able to establish a new armorial tradition in their own family to pass down to their descendants.

A second, and less often acknowledged, reason for the popularity of heraldry in the United

States is, to put it politely, ego. And that's not necessarily a bad thing. Assumption of armorial bearings is certainly a “noble” practice, and while there will always be those individuals who believe that assumed arms are not on par with granted arms (an argument I will not go into at this time), the mere fact that one displays armorial bearings somehow raises one's status (at least in one's own mind). Given the prevalence of armorial usage in personal stationery, business cards, heraldic jewelry, etc., the practice (which has no “practical” purpose) is certainly a way to show off a bit.

Do these registrations carry the same weight as a grant? No, of course not. But, most of the individuals who contact our organization either a) don't have sufficient genealogical proofs (positive or negative) to pass along to the College of Arms (or similar heraldic entity) for verification of entitlement to bear existing arms; or b) don't have the often-exorbitant fees necessary to obtain a legitimate grant of arms. Thus, they come to the American College of Heraldry, ideally with eyes wide open (we do not pretend to be anything more than a registering and publishing entity), in hopes of obtaining sound advice on “proper” heraldic usage, so that the arms they ultimately assume and are registered meet with commonly “acceptable” form.

True, there are organizations (both in the U.S. and abroad, but primarily in the U.S.) that will offer heraldic advice at no cost, and these organizations are to be lauded for their contributions to the art and science of heraldry. But, those entities neither publish the arms in print, issue registration certificates, nor offer hand drawn renderings of the newly-devised armorial bearings. The College's current fee of \$325.00 covers the costs of paying an artist for the rendering, publishing the reg-

istration of arms. And that's not necessarily a bad thing. Assumption of armorial bearings is certainly a “noble” practice, and while there will always be those individuals who believe that assumed arms are not on par with granted arms (an argument I will not go into at this time), the mere fact that one displays armorial bearings somehow raises one's status (at least in one's own mind). Given the prevalence of armorial usage in personal stationery, business cards, heraldic jewelry, etc., the practice (which has no “practical” purpose) is certainly a way to show off a bit.



Continued on page 25

**Clan Henderson
on parade
at Grandfather
Mountain
Highland
Games
2007**



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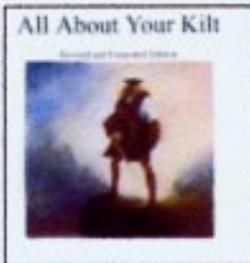
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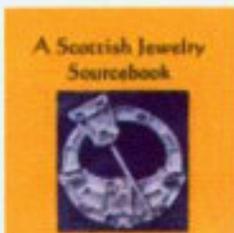
Books on Clothing, Jewelry and more!



DSP-5. All About Your Kilt. By Bob Martin. Full-Color, Revised & Expanded Edition. 76 pages. Book on CD-ROM. In defining what is Scottish — always an elusive topic — both the kilt and tartan figure large in the definition of those symbols by which Scotland is identified. But the tartan presented in the kilt has to be one of the most controversial topics within the lexicon of things Scottish. Rather than being a static piece of a costume, the kilt, along with its accoutrements — the sporran, the kilt hose, the sgian dhubh, the bonnet — actually has evolved over the centuries, but at each stage in the development nationalists have stamped the prevailing style as “correct” and absolute. Bob Martin, the leading historian of the kilt, has researched and here presents definitive material drawn from actual kilts, from portraits and illustrations, and from written descriptions, showing that evolution and stressing the extent to which the kilt as a piece of clothing can be adapted and utilized in everyday life. Martin’s first chapters define the development of the kilt with color illustrations, then proceed

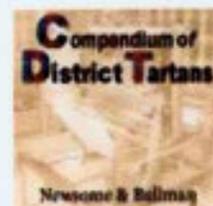
to the various bits and pieces which can be worn with it, the tartans which are used in its construction, its care and maintenance, ladies’ apparel. In the second part, he presents the research by which he has established the evolution of the kilt into the piece of clothing it is today. \$14.95

DSP-185. The Kilt and How to Wear It. By the Hon. Stuart Ruaidri Erskine, with Annotations by Bob Martin. Book on CD-ROM. 60 pages. The late 19th century produced renewed interest in Celtic studies and in the dress of the Highland families. This work by one of the leading authorities of his day examines the extent of Celtic society, the origin of tartan, the supremacy of checks over family tartans, the evolution of the kilt, and the origin, coloration, and style of the other component parts of Highland dress. Erskine refutes many of the arguments of Lord Archibald Campbell regarding the antiquity of family tartans, and while stressing the use of authentically Celtic colors and styles when possible, presents a convincing case for the kilt and its accoutrements as a living and evolving style of dress. Kiltmaker and kilt historian Bob Martin (author of *All About Your Kilt*) has gone through the text line by line, and has annotated and commented on aspects of Erskine’s ideas with particular attention to their relevance for those wearing the kilt today. \$14.95



D-664. A Scottish Jewelry Sourcebook. Book on CD-ROM. This CD is one of our “Sourcebook” series, which present on one disc a variety of materials on a given topic. This particular sourcebook brings together articles and chapters from larger books, all dealing with some aspect of Scottish jewelry. Included here are: “Fourteenth-Century Brooches and Other Ornaments in the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland”; The chapters concerning Celtic and Scottish jewelry in Fred W. Burgess’s *Antique Jewelry and Trinkets*: “The Brooch of Lorn”; “Note on a Late Celtic Armlet”; “Notes on a Silver-Mounted Charm-Stone of Rock-Crystal from Inverlery”; “Decorative Metalwork Brooches”; “Jacobite Rings”; “The MacDougalls and the Brooch of Lorn”; “The Mackay of Ugadale Brooch”; “Queen Mary’s Jewels”; and “Scottish Swan’s Neck Sunflower Pins” \$14.95

DSP-250. Compendium of District Tartans. By Matthew A. C. Newsome and James A. Bullman. Revised 2nd edition. 470 pages. Book on CD-ROM. 2 CDs. The *Compendium of District Tartans* is the largest single collection of district tartans — those tartans that represent places rather than clans or families. This collection includes tartans officially adopted by the district, as well as “unofficial” tartans named for districts and some archaeological tartans suggested for district use, with distinction made between each. Thread counts and color illustrations are given for hundreds of district tartans from Scotland, Ireland, and the rest of the British Isles, places in Europe, Canada, the United States, Australia and New Zealand, and beyond. No collection is complete without this landmark reference! \$16.95



D-635. Costume Design and Making: A Practical Handbook. By Mary Fernald, in collaboration with Eileen Shenton. 160 pages. Originally published 1937. Book on CD-ROM. This book is a practical guide to the making of period costumes from the period of the Saxons down through Victorian costumes of the 1880s. Its primary focus is on English dress, but it in addition provides valuable material on the costume of the medieval period, both in England and in Scotland. It includes 24 illustrations and 51 pages of diagrams, guiding the seamster through the design, cutting, and construction of historically accurate garments. Included are patterns for: Saxon Man’s Short Tunic and Long Robe, Saxon Woman’s Over-Tunic and Gown, Norman Woman’s Short Tunic, the Jupon Tunic, the Cote-Hardie and Sideless Gown, the Houppelande, Tudor Skirted Doublet and Trunks, Tudor Woman’s Gown and Over-Gown, Elizabethan Doublet, Charles I Doublet, Charles II Lady’s Gown, 18th-Century Full-Skirted Coat, 18th and 19th-Century Breeches, Lady’s Empire Gown, and more. \$14.95



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David Wooten, *continued from page 19*

istration in “The Armiger’s News,” as well as the compilation volumes of The Heraldic Register of America (which includes a chronological listing of all registered arms with the College), soon to be in its 15th Volume, as well as administrative costs including advertising, website maintenance, etc.

To quote from the College’s website (www.americancollegeofheraldry.org), the College has “the aim of aiding in the study and perpetuation of heraldry in the United States and abroad. Registrations are restricted by policy to American citizens or residents, as well as to others with significant personal or business connections in America.”

Our further goal is to educate the public so that, ultimately, all heraldic “bucket shops” are put out of business. Bucket shops do nothing but damage to the public’s understanding of true heraldry. As I mentioned previously, these vendors sell to individuals who may or may not know the true etymology of their surname, and if, as with the case of my own surname, the name changes through the decades (whether by error of spelling or on purpose), the name which a bucket shop assigns to you may have nothing whatsoever to do with arms to which you may legitimately be entitled. Again, to quote from the College’s website:

“The notorious ‘Coat of arms for the Name of Jones, Smith, or whatever,’ purchasable by mail order or in one’s local shopping mall, represents no more than improper and illegitimate armorial

bearings. To buy and bear these commercially produced arms is to claim for oneself a direct kinship which has only the most remote possibility of validity, and is thereby to deny one’s own legitimate and rightful line of descent. Such infraction of armorial regulation and custom constitutes a flagrant abuse of arms which no knowledgeable and honorable person would intentionally commit.

“Sadly, most of the heraldic abuse in this country is done by honest, well-meaning persons. They greatly admire the heraldic tradition, but in their desire to participate in that tradition they inadvertently abuse heraldic arms due to their lack

of familiarity with heraldic regulations and customs. While such armorial abuse does not apparently violate state or federal statute in this country at this time, still to usurp the use of another person’s coat of arms is highly improper and is a dishonest practice. Such conduct disregards the regulations of all recognized heraldry and violates the rights of the legitimate owners of the arms.”

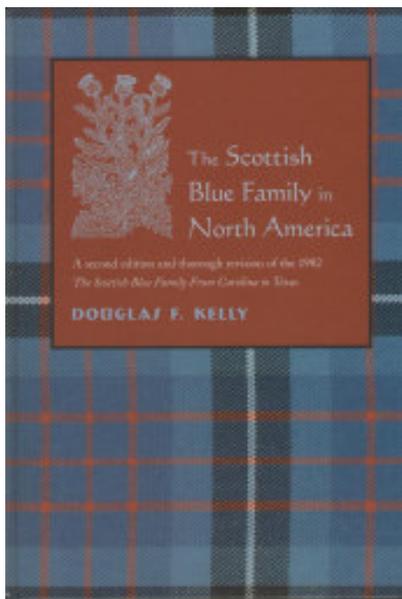
The American College of Heraldry welcomes anyone interested in registering arms – whether already assumed, or

arms in need of development – to visit our constantly-evolving website (www.americancollegeofheraldry.org) and review the materials found therein. Our extensive FAQs page often answers most of the commonly asked questions about what our organization can and cannot do, as well as providing detailed information on heraldic usage. I can be reached by email at dwooten@americancollegeofheraldry.org.



Contact David Wooten, American College of Heraldry, at:
<dwooten@americancollegeofheraldry.org>

Boy, oh boy! What an interesting book *The Scottish Blue Family in North America* is!



The Scottish Blue Family in North America traces the story of several large colonies of Blues who emigrated from Argyll in Scotland from the 1740s to the 1850s to North Carolina, New York and Canada. They have been stable families, leaving a wealth of documentary sources, which have made the years of intensive research into the family by the author Douglas F. Kelly relatively easy.

This book is a massive revision of one composed by the same author in 1982. This new book is double the size of the original (now with about 1850 pages, including an index of some 27,600 names). In many cases, lines of descent are traced unbroken for three centuries.

Historical context, including stories known to be reliable, is intertwined with the genealogies, so as to put flesh and blood on the dry bones of names and dates.

In addition to the fifteen different families of Scottish emigrants (to USA and Canada), two prominent African-American families are also traced, whose ancestors were connected with the North Carolina Blues.

The name index is a veritable roll-call of Scottish surnames! The book reads like a great story-book, but is a treasure house of genealogical information that anyone researching anyone will find useful and fascinating.

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