



HOMETOWN PUBLICATION FOR THE WORLDWIDE SCOTTISH COMMUNITY

April 2013 Volume VII Issue No. 1 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section A

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree back for you to enjoy!

From your editor:

The tale of where we've been is sort of nuts. It's like the adventures of Marco Polo. Well, I will just explain as best I can what exactly happened.

The software company told me that my PageMaker program was "outmoded" and "too old" to use. It was working fine for me...but as soon as I was told it was "too old" to use, it wouldn't work.

Please remember that we were immersed in moving from Walhalla to Clarkesville, Georgia. I kept waiting for the new InDesign program to come. It finally came, only four months after I was promised it would be here in "5 to 7 days."

I also ordered the Classroom in a Book from the internet. When it arrived, I couldn't understand how to use the new program. I wanted to attend the tech school in this area - as that's how I had learned PageMaker in 1999.

Nope, the tech school would not allow me to attend their school. I called every computer place in the area... all to no avail.

Finally, John Taggart from Clan Ross who lives in Charlotte, North Carolina came to teach me how to use the new program. THANK YOU, JOHN!

To be honest, PageMaker is a better program. to me right now, but I am struggling to learn how to construct my publication in the new InDesign. I am sure it will become easier in a little time.

Thank you all for your patience.



Rosslyn Chapel built for skull of Saint Matthew?

CLAIRE SMITH

Rosslyn Chapel is a small Scottish chapel that has been immortalised by Hollywood and a best-selling novel as the last resting place of the Holy Grail.

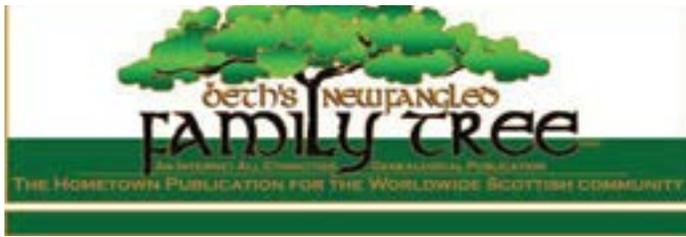
But a new book on world-famous Rosslyn Chapel claims to have found the real purpose of the 15th-century building which played a central part in *Dan Brown's The Da Vinci Code*.

Following years of research, authors Alan Butler and John Ritchie insist the chapel was built as a giant reliquary -- or shrine -- for the skull of St Matthew, which they say was smuggled from France for safekeeping.

At the time, the relics of saints, particularly those with a direct link to Jesus Christ, were regarded as great treasures.

The authors also claim that some of the elaborate in-

Continued on page 4



Editor, photographer, etc.
Beth Gay-Freeman, LOK, FSA Scot
<bethscribble@aol.com>
688 Camp Yonah Road
Clarkesville, GA 30523

Webmaster
Alastair McIntyre, KTJ, FSA Scot
<<http://www.electricscotland.com>>

Masthead Designer
Tom Freeman, KR, FSA Scot
<tom@caberdancer.com>

Be notified when a new
BNFT issue is ready! Free! Just visit
<http://www.electricscotland.com/maillist.net>

Please tell everyone about

Beth's Newfangled Family Tree!

No postage, no subscriptions,
no strings at all...just read,
*New issues the first of
each month at
this site!*

Your Scottish and
Genealogical news
is always welcomed!
Send to bethscribble@aol.com



Her little grave is positioned so that I can see it from the kitchen window.

We have a little tombstone which reads, "If love could have saved you, you would have lived forever." I will never get over missing her.

Miss Narra has passed away...

After nineteen years and 2 months, Narra The Wonder Cat decided it was time for her to go... She stopped eating and drinking. Her veterinarian diagnosed a very rapid heart beat of 260 beats per minute which portended that the end was near.

Prior to this diagnosis she had suffered the loss of her hearing and she did not like that.

Her life was truly filled with adventures and brave acts on her part and love for me. There was a time when she, Peggie Hairy and Sylvester Highway bravely protected me from very real danger.

At the end of her life she only weighed a little less than four pounds...from a high weight of nine pounds. I could not stand to think of her suffering.

Putting her to sleep was the very best thing for her, but it almost killed me.

A letter from your editor...
Yes, we have no bananas...
but, by gum, we're all moved!



The past year has been much more than exciting. I don't actually know how to describe all the things that have happened to Tom and to me, but many of them were unusual to say the least. It was scary some too.

The move from Walhalla to our new (to us) house in Walhalla would not be believed. We made at least 10 - 15 loads with hired folks, trucks of some kind, flat bed trailers - even a horse trailer.

We also made the 80 mile round trip each day, just Tom and me, for maybe six months.

I will have to confess that I became so very tired that I fell asleep in the car, truck, or whatever we were using.

It's astounding at the number of loads of the strangest things we brought over here. Just a sample include Tom's two racing wheelchairs - although one of them could be called a bike. We brought Tom's huge desk which he has used since college - weighing in at about a ton, I think. Not to mention his reloading equipment.

We learned that even if you pay folks an astronomical amount of money, most of the time, you never see them again to earn what was promised.

We learned that just because people say, "Sure, I can install light fixtures," or "Sure, I am great at installing porch swings," or a bazillion of not so exciting skills...Just because the folks say they know how to do things...that

does not mean those folks actually know how to do anything.

Everyone said, "Oh, just call your families or your friends." Ha.

Neither one of us has any family who would consider helping us move. I do have an Auntie Mildred who celebrated her 105th birthday this year. (Had it not been so far away down in Jacksonville Beach, Florida, she would have been here supervising everything.)

All of our friends are like us, in that they hold many, many jobs in order to make a living...and do not have any time to help anybody do anything. (Exceptions include our dear friends, Steve and Debbie Smith, who did help us over the past year! Plus, our friend Stacey Garrett and a friend of his came and put together our fake fireplace in the basement and James Wheaton from Lebanon, TN came to help.)

We've already hosted friends from Stone Mountain. Dorna Comp made our Gordon tartan draperies and her husband, Ralph, repaired our front door and a dozen other needed repairs.

Our dear friend, Hope-Vere Anderson, brought his delightful mother, Catherine Anderson when he came with the furniture. He made it possible for our house to look so nice with Scottish antiques.

Thanks to all who helped us. Thank goodness we're done now. We're never moving again. No, not ever again.

teriors also point to the chapel being the safehouse for St Matthew's skull. The beautifully ornate pillar known as the Apprentice <<http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/heritage/rosslyn-chapel-built-for-skull-of-saint-matthew-1-2828806#>> Pillar is, they say, a representation of a miraculous honey-laden tree associated with the saint, and the building was designed so that honey from beehives hidden in the buttress roof dripped down onto the altar.

The authors said it was not uncommon for buildings to be designed around a relic -- for example, St Chapelle in Paris, which was built around the relic of the Crown of Thorns -- and that they found many references to the life of Matthew in the carvings around Rosslyn Chapel.

"There has been so much written about Rosslyn Chapel and what the carvings mean," said Butler. "But it does not stretch credibility that the chapel represents this story about St Matthew. Every single detail fits.

"What we are saying is what is the most likely explanation. The chapel was built as a giant reliquary for the skull of St Matthew."

The chapel was founded in 1466 by Sir William Sinclair, 1st Earl of Caithness and a member of a noble family descended in part from Norman knights.

The legend of a "treasure" hidden at Rosslyn has endured for hundreds of years -- thanks partly to the survival of a letter from Mary de Guise, mother of Mary, Queen of Scots, to the builder of the chapel.

Butler and Ritchie believe St Matthew's skull was the secret treasure shown to Mary and that it was brought to Scotland under the orders of Enea Piccolomini, a Catholic envoy who was a friend of Sinclair and who later became Pope Pius II. Ritchie said: "At that time they believed it was a direct link with Christ and therefore to God. That's what relics were all about."

After visiting the chapel. Marie de Guise, the wife of King James V, said: "We bind us and oblige us to the said Sir William and shall be a loyal and true mistress to him. His counsel and secret shown to us we shall keep secret."

According to some theories, however, the secret of Rosslyn was the Holy Grail itself. This theory formed the basis of Brown's book -- which suggested the Holy Grail was the bloodline of Christ and that his descendants were living in Scotland -- which has brought thousands of visitors a year to the tiny Midlothian Chapel.

The official story of the Apprentice <[\[scotsman.com/lifestyle/heritage/rosslyn-chapel-built-for-skull-of-saint-matthew-1-2828806#\]\(http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/heritage/rosslyn-chapel-built-for-skull-of-saint-matthew-1-2828806#\)> Pillar, which is still told by chapel guides, is that the pillar was created by an apprentice who was then murdered by his master. However, the story is not widely believed by many scholars, who say the carvings said to represent the apprentice and the master have been altered and that the story itself is older than the chapel.](http://www.</p></div><div data-bbox=)

The authors say the tree that the pillar represents was said to have sprung up during St Matthew's teaching in Myrna in Turkey. This relates to accounts in the collection of early Bible stories known as the Apocrypha, which describe the saint's staff transforming into a fruit-bearing tree laden with honey. "It shall become a tree great and lofty and flourishing and its fruit beautiful to the view and good to the sight and the fragrance of perfumes shall come forth from it and there shall be a vine twining round it full of clusters and from the top of it honey coming down," the accounts said.

The authors say the remains of centuries-old beehives were found under the roof of Rosslyn during recent restorations. They believe the roof may have been specially constructed to attract bees and that a hole directly above the altar would have allowed honey to drip onto the altar. Butler said: "Even within living memory, people remember honey dripping down from the roof onto the altar."

In their book, *Rosslyn Chapel Decoded*, Butler and Ritchie say the sacred skull was kept secret and hidden in the network of tunnels between Rosslyn Castle and the chapel to keep it safe from rampaging English armies and to protect it from the increasingly Calvinist nature of the Church in Scotland. Ritchie says: "If it had been known it was there, the chapel would have been destroyed on several occasions."

The chapel, which is now run by a trust, has been a tourism destination for decades and numbers were given a massive boost by the 2003 book and 2006 film starring Tom Hanks <<http://www.scotsman.com/lifestyle/heritage/rosslyn-chapel-built-for-skull-of-saint-matthew-1-2828806#>> and Audrey Tautou.

Ian Gardner, the director of the Rosslyn Chapel Trust, said: "What I like is that lots of people have different ways of interpreting Rosslyn Chapel, its history and its carvings and the legends around it. It is very hard to prove or disprove any of them but it all adds to the mystery of the place."

We have lost a treasure.

Royce passed away in August, but this is important to use now.

Royce Neil McNeill, of Charlotte, NC born August 8, 1927, went to his eternal home in heaven on April 14, 2012. Royce met the Lord peacefully with his loving family by his side at Carolinas Medical Center Union.

Royce was married to the late Doris Byrd McNeill, and both are with the Eternal Lord in heaven. Royce is survived by his children Debbie and Bob Deaton of Belmont, Jim and Pam McNeill of Mooresville, Terry and Tim Richardson of Monroe, and Bonnie and Ken Richardson of Monroe; and his grandchildren, Marta Deaton Wherren, Tracy Deaton Poplin, Anthony McNeill Richardson, Kenneth Blair Richardson, Jacob Edward McNeill, Travis Royce McNeill, James Aubert Richardson, and Morgan Alese McNeill; and eight beautiful great-grandchildren.

In 1977 Royce was Assistant Manager of Fuel Purchasing for Duke Power Company, Charlotte, NC, retiring in 1991 after 40 years of work in the field of Purchasing Management. Robert Ripley and Paul Harvey featured

Royce McNeill, on their famous radio talk show in 1992 for his perfect attendance during elementary and high school, college, military service and professional work. He never missed a day of school, service, or work!

Upon retirement he became active in volunteer work. Royce did work for the Junior Achievement high school program, tutoring minority students in elementary school in math and reading. He became the president of the Duke Power Retiree Club. Royce was voted Duke Power retiree of the year in 1996 for his faithful volunteer work with Duke Power.

Royce McNeill served as the President of the Clan MacNeil Association of America for over 20 years, greatly contributing to our national identity by pre-

serving the distinct values and heritage of our ancestors. He also served as committee chairman for the International

Gathering of Scottish Clans in Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was chosen to take the prestigious salute at the retreat ceremonies at Edinburgh Castle in Edinburgh, Scotland.

In 1987 and 1997 he led the successful world-wide gathering of Clan MacNeil back to its home seat of Kisimul Castle on the Isle of Barra, Scotland.

In 1997 her Majesty's Court of the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, certified the personal coat of Arms for Royce Neil McNeill and designated him as an Armiger.

Royce received the distinguished Ellis Island Medal of Honor in 2000 for his exemplary work in preserving the heritage of his ancestors.

Royce McNeill is a veteran of the United States Navy and served during World War II. He was a sailor on the USS LSM 342.

Royce was presented the high award of Silver Beaver by the Boy Scouts of America and he earned the scouting designation of Wood Badge Scoutmaster.

Royce is beloved by his family and they eagerly await the

day they see him again with the Lord Jesus! A Celebration of Life Service was held at 3pm, Tuesday at South Point Baptist Church with Dr. James C. Hilton officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Royce N. McNeill and Doris B. McNeill Endowment Fund, Owens Field House, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608 or to S.P.B.C. Building Fund, 124 Horsley Ave., Belmont, NC 28012.

Share condolences with the family by visiting www.mcleanfuneral.com and signing the guest book. McLean Funeral Directors of Belmont is serving the McNeill family.



From your editor...

I met Royce McNeill in maybe 1989...and remained a friend all these years.

Presenting an award for excellence for the Clan Macneil newsletter, it was my privilege to attend many Clan Macneil Annual Meetings at Grandfather Mountain during those years when Royce was president of the group.

Always, those meetings were inclusive of every person present.

Always those meetings were filled with joy for everyone attending. Always those meetings were times when pride in Macneil heritage rose to the moon!

I so wished to find an ancestor with a Macneil connection. (The best I could do was to discover one of my Border Reiver connections stole horses from Clan Macneil. Lots of horses!)

Royce was always kind and thoughtful. He so enjoyed his hunting trips to exotic places. He loved his Doris, his family and everything Scottish.

He was a wonderful, loving and kind friend. I am not embarrassed to tell you, I am crying as I write this. Royce McNeill will always be missed.



GREENSBORO — **Hollis “Skeets” Cahoon**, 71, passed away peacefully on Saturday, March 16th, in Greensboro. Skeets was born on May 16, 1941, grew up in Covington, VA, and earned the rank of Eagle Scout as a teenager.

He graduated from high school in Sullivan, IN, and later earned a B.S.E.E. at Virginia Tech. During his time at Tech, he was a proud member of the Corps of Cadets (F Company) and entered the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant. He served in Korea as a Field Artillery officer, gaining the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

Skeets studied and enjoyed history, and was especially fond of activities surrounding the Civil & Revolutionary Wars and all things Scottish.

He was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Sons of Confederate Veterans, Military Order of the Stars & Bars, the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem, and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

His interest in his family’s Scottish lineage led him

to help found the Triad St. Andrew’s Society, the Loch Norman Highland Games and the Triad Highland Games, and become a member of the fictitious Kin-dome of Raknar.

In his spare time, Skeets was employed as an HVAC sales engineer, he owned and operated Brightwood Mechanical, a plumbing and HVAC company, and eventually started an electrical and mechanical consulting engineering practice.

Later in life, he was able to truly turn his advocacy into his vocation helping create Collegiate Tartan, a company that designs and registers tartans for colleges and universities.

Skeets is preceded in death by his parents, Frances & Hollis Cahoon, and his beloved 4-legged friends, Tippy, Rusty and Bert. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Katherine Tillery Kress Cahoon; children Fran Koch (Thom) of High Point, Charlotte Cline (Randy) of Norcross, GA, and Mary Hamilton (Stan) of Chapel Hill,

Continued on page 16



Clan Elliot Society, USA

Any person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot in any of its various spellings, including the spouse or descendant of such person, or any person who would like to be a friend of the Elliot Clan is welcome to join the group.

Please contact the treasurer for a membership form or visit <http://www.elliotclanusa.com/> for a form.

The Clan Elliot Society, USA Treasurer is: **Patricia Tennyson Bell**,
2288 Casa Grande Street, Pasadena, CA 91104.

Clan Gregor Society

**Sir Malcolm
MacGregor of MacGregor**
7th Baronet of Lanrick
and Balquidder,
24th Chief of Clan Gregor
*Great Lakes, New England,
Pacific North West, Western U.S.
and Southeast Chapters*

www.clangregor.org



For membership contact:
**PO Box 393,
Stone Mountain, GA 30083**

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,
Secretary,
Mo Dhachaidh,
2 Breachadh Alloa,
Clackmannanshire,
FW102EW, Scotland

Visit the Clan Macfie FaceBook page

Glen Cathey has recently put up
The Official Clan Macfie FaceBook page
and it is ready for you to join and participate.
You can see some Youtube of the Clan Parliament at
Nethybridge. This is the link: [http://www.facebook.com/pages/
The-Official-Clan-Macfie-Page/177565770680](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Official-Clan-Macfie-Page/177565770680)

Clan Crawford Association

Incorporated to serve our members worldwide to preserve our legacy. Our Associates can assist you with surname related activities including events, DNA genealogy, heraldry, surname history and more.

Ralf Smart, Director, SE
803-425-5316 or general_ly@yahoo.com or
www.clancrawford.org



Web help for our Scottish genealogists!

I just watched a web seminar on researching in Scotland that might be helpful to others. It is at: <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/webinars.asp> about half way down the page there is a link for it, it is under archived webinars.

Researching Your Scottish Ancestors. Scotland has a wealth of records available to assist you in researching your Scottish ancestry. Scottish statutory records of births, marriages and deaths began in 1855 and are available online together with census returns from 1841 - 1911. Other online records include Old Parish Records of baptisms, marriages and burials, records from Catholic archives and Scottish wills and testaments. Join our webinar to find out about these records and strategies to help you use these and other useful sources effectively in your research.

The 22nd Lord Forbes, Premier Lord of Scotland, who has died aged 95, was an Aberdeenshire farmer who — much to his surprise — spent a year in Harold Macmillan's government as Minister of State for Scotland.

Forbes was a relative unknown at Westminster when, in October 1958, Macmillan offered him the job in place of Lord Strathclyde, who was leaving the government. Forbes accepted, on condition that he would serve only until the next election — which in the event was 12 months away.

Macmillan's timing was superb. Forbes might not have had a political track record, but he knew about deer, and had been pressing for stiffer penalties for poaching and a close season on deer in the Highlands. Just such a measure was ready, and while Forbes did also have to speak on education and home affairs, he spent most of his time at the Scottish Office piloting through the Deer (Scotland) Bill.

Nigel Ivan Forbes was born on February 19 1918, the eldest son of the 21st Lord Forbes and the former Lady Mabel Anson, daughter of the 3rd Earl of Lichfield. After Harrow and Sandhurst, he followed his father into the Grenadier Guards.

Though commissioned in peacetime, Forbes was soon on active service in France. During the retreat to Dunkirk his left leg was shattered by a mortar. He recovered sufficiently to serve as adjutant and attend staff college, and in 1947-48 was military assistant to the high commissioner in Palestine during the explosive

final months of the British Mandate before retiring from the Army as a major.

In 1953 Forbes succeeded to his title, created in the 1440s for a grandson-in-law of King Robert III. At the Coronation that June, he carried the coronet of Princess Mary, Princess Royal and Countess of Harewood.

He did not move into the family seat of Castle Forbes, built in 1815 by the 17th Lord Forbes, instead managing the 5,000-acre family estate beside the river Don and serving on Alford council. In 1972 the house became a private hotel for American oilmen coming to Aberdeen; later Forbes's younger son managed the estate from there, and more recently it has been a guest-house.

In May 1955 Forbes was elected a representative Peer of Scotland in the great hall of Parliament House, Edinburgh, by his fellow peers with titles created prior to the Act of Union, entitling him to a seat in the Lords. A few weeks later he shot for the Lords against the Commons at Bisley, but it was December before he spoke, urging speedier transport of freight by rail. He joined delegations to Denmark, Canada, Pakistan, Hungary (where his horsemanship impressed) and Ethiopia.

Forbes made his most controversial speech during the 1957 debate on the introduction of

Continued on page 16

Looking for your Scottish Family History?

Visit our newly
redesigned website:
www.unicornlimited.com

Information on hundreds of
Scottish families, as well as:

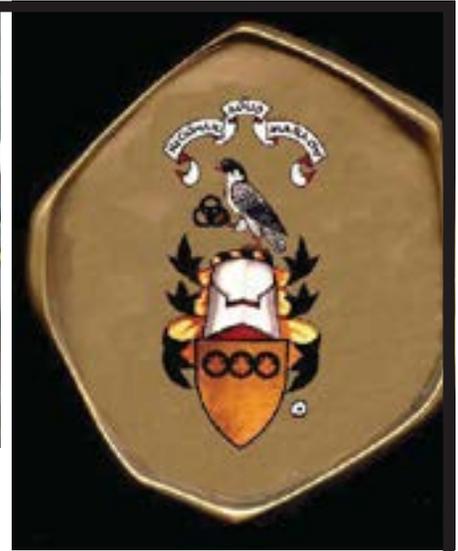
- * Bagpipe music books
- * Scottish history and culture
- * Scottish and Celtic folklore
- * The Scots and Scots-Irish in
North America

Visit our site to purchase
instant download materials

Unicorn Limited, Inc.

Since 1979, your #1 source
for information on all things Scottish!

Renny and Vicki McLeod
P. O. Box 125, Loachapoka, AL 36865
334.501.0202 mcleod@scotpress.com



Clan Graham Society

If you are a Graham or Sept of Graham, you are cordially invited to share in a proud and noble heritage.

For application, write: **Clan Graham Society**

Norris Graham

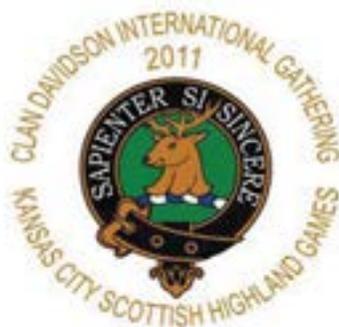
PO Box 70

Yucca, AZ 06438-0070

www.clan-graham-society.org

Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc.

www.clandavidsonusa.com



COME JOIN US! The Clan Davidson Society, USA, Inc. will be sponsoring an *International Gathering of Clan Davidson* on the 2nd weekend of June (**June 10, 11 & 12**), 2011. The event will be held in conjunction with the Kansas City Scottish Highland Games.

Richard Halliley, President
5650 Harmony Bend
Braselton, GA 30517
gahalliley@gmail.com

Dave Chagnon, Membership
7004 Barberry St.
North Little Rock, AR 72118
sennachie@earthlink.net

Clan Davidson Society, USA invites all Davidson's and Septs of the clan to membership:
Davey, Davie, Davis, Davison, Davisson, Daw, Dawson, Day, Dea(s), Dean, Deane, Deason, Dee, Desson, Devette, Dewis, Dey, Dow, Dye, Kay, Keay, Key, Keys, MacAdie, MacDaid, MacDavid, MacDavitt, MacKay, Slora, Slorach.

Flowers of the Forest

Mr. Sanders Gaither Draughn, 75, passed away Sunday, April 15, 2012 at Forsyth Medical Center.

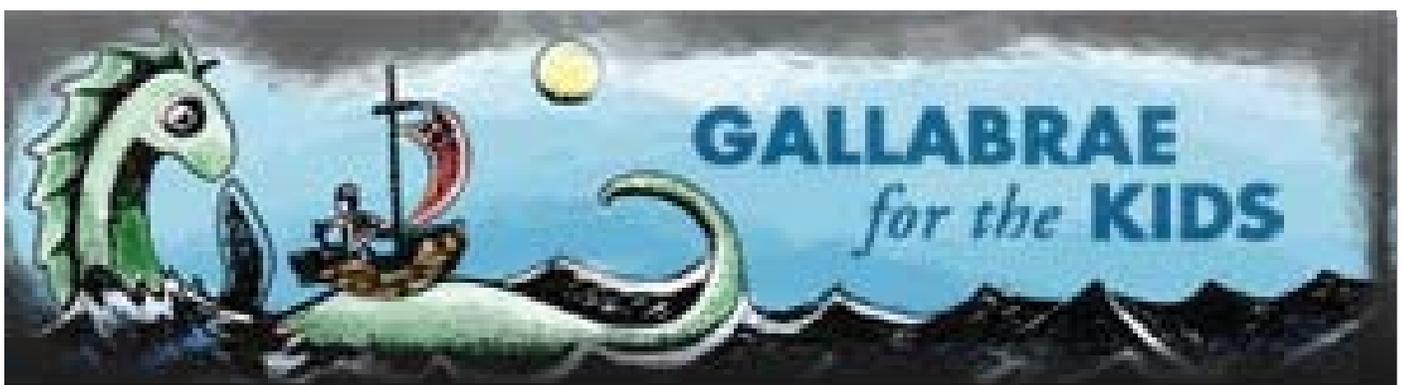
He was born April 28, 1936 in Yadkin County to the late Gaither and Florence Simmons Draughn. Mr. Draughn retired as Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force with 22 years of service from 1954 to 1976, serving in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He also worked for several years with Yadkin County Emergency Medical Services. In addition to his parents, he was also preceded in death by his wife, Nancy Martin Draughn and a brother, David Draughn. Surviving are his two daughters, Teresa Lynn Lorbacher and husband, Johnnie; Donna Y. Draughn; and a son, Douglas O. Draughn.



The family will receive friends from 6-8 PM Wednesday at Gentry Family Funeral Service in Yadkinville. His funeral service will be 12:00 PM Thursday in the Gentry Family Chapel by Rev. Lenuel Lusk.

Burial will follow in the Yadkin Memorial Gardens with full military honors by Yadkin VFW Post 10346. Gentry Family Funeral Service of Yadkinville is serving the Draughn Family.

Online condolences may be made to www.gentryfuneralservice.com.



Greenville Scottish Games Memorial Day Weekend 2013

A new bursary for Sabhal Mòr Ostaig students to study the history and literature of Clan Currie

Bob Currie, President of the Clan Currie Society visited Sabhal Mòr Ostaig this week (Tuesday 17 April) to launch the Clan Currie Bursary (Duais Clann MhicMhuirich), a new annual award which will be given to students of the Gaelic college who undertake research on the literature, poetry and history of Clan Currie.

Mr Currie, who travelled from the United States to launch the award, said: “The Clan Currie Society is delighted to be establishing Duais Clann MhicMhuirich with Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, to support students who are specialising in the study of the MacMhuirichs and Gaelic poetry, literature and history. While much has been written of this great bardic dynasty, it is now recognised that much more remains to be revealed and interpreted through modern scholarship. As an example, there has been little study on the MacMhuirichs in the islands of Mull, Raasay and Colonsay. The Clan Currie Society takes great

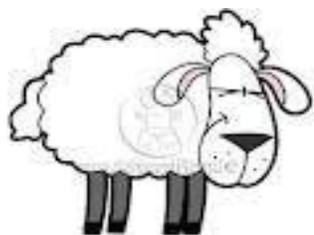
pride in supporting this research.”

Professor Hugh Cheape, Course Leader for the MSc Material Culture and Gàidhealtachd History, commented: “We are exceptionally pleased to welcome Bob Currie, President of the American-based Clan Currie Society, to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig to announce the creation of a bursary – the ‘Duais Clann MhicMhuirich’ – to be awarded by the Society annually to a student in Gaelic history and literature for a research project on the bardic dynasty of

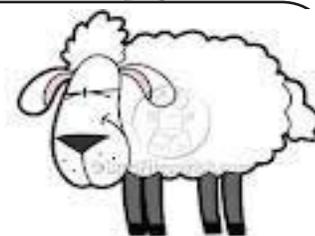


MacMhuirichs whose history goes back 900 years to the first of the name, Muireadhach Albannach. This gesture offers highly valued opportunities for research and writing through the medium of Gaelic and at the highest levels and also to engage with both national archives and with oral tradition still current in different communities. We are very proud to be instigating this on behalf of the Clan Currie

Continued on page 13



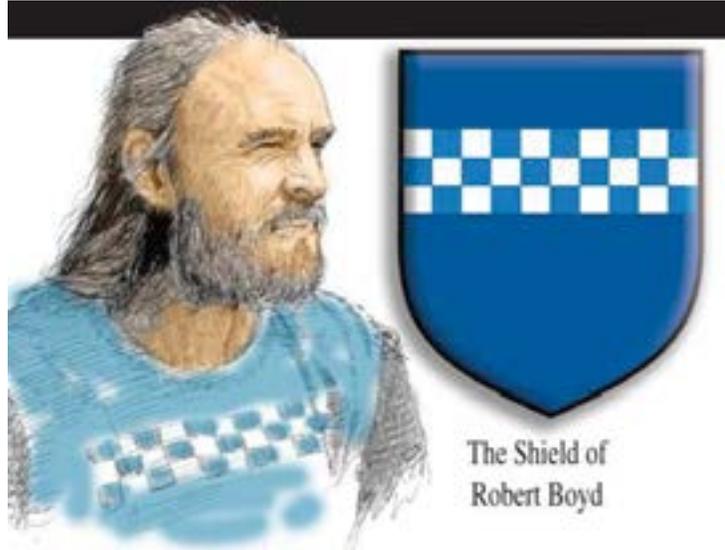
Site Seeing



This will make you smile for days!

http://www.youtube.com/v/1eXS0o6r-Wk?version=3&feature=player_embedded

Clan Currie, *continued from page 12*



The Shield of
Robert Boyd

A lifelong friend and close lieutenant to Robert the Bruce, Sir Robert Boyd heroically defended Castle Kildrummy and was an exemplar to all in the Scots' cause. He survived the years and faced harsh dangers in taking his country back from the English kings, and fought alongside his family's Stewart kinsmen at the Battle of Bannok Burn.

The epic story unfolds before you in the historical *Rebel King* novels. See them here:

REBELKING.COM

Society and are looking forward to collaborating with the Society to bring knowledge of this great dynasty before the people of Scotland and our cousins and descendants overseas.”

Clan Currie became hereditary poets to the powerful MacDonald Lords of the Isles who reigned over a semi-autonomous Gaelic kingdom which at its height covered a large swathe of Scotland's western seaboard. The MacMhuirich poets were among the preeminent tradition bearers of Scotland's Gaelic culture during this time, and produced many famed works in the bardic tradition. Despite the demise of the Lordship, the MacMhuirichs continued in their poetic tradition, and Niall MacMhuirich in the 15th Century was the first of several notable bards to Clan Ranald.

Clan Currie will be hosting their 3rd Annual MacMhuirich Symposium next summer on the beautiful and historic island of South Uist. Dates to be announced.

Contact Clan Currie by visiting www.clancurriegathering.com for program information.

Clan Blair Society

Membership cordially invited from Blair descendants and other interested parties.

www.clanblair.org

President: Helen L. Blair
7516 E. Hermosa Vista Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85207-1110

President@clanblair.org



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715
ClanMembership@clanblair.org

Plant a tree in Scotland

Add your name to the
honours board - onsite!

www.trees4scotland.com

Make sure you become part
of Scotland's history

Trees only £10 each

Join us in reforesting Scotland

Taking your camera to a Highland Games?

If you would like to take photographs of the game you are attending anytime you go to a Scottish Game, you know that you may send a disc or two of those photos to your editor. Just mail the disc to Beth at 688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523.

I'll be happy to edit the photos and give you a full photo credit!

Hispanic Genealogical Society of Southern California

PO Box 2472

Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670-0472

<http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/GSHA.htm>

Subscribe now, for wonderful Celtic reading

Celtic Seasons

...from the

Stream of Celtic Consciousness

Just send your name and address and
some kind of monetary donation to:

Rich Shader

2593 Chapparral Drive

Melbourne, FL 32934



The Importance of Cemeteries to Genealogical Research

**Bryan Mulcahy, Reference Librarian,
Fort Myers, Lee County Library**

Newcomers to genealogical research often voice amazement with the “obsession” many genealogists have when visiting cemeteries. The notion of taking a “cemetery vacation” is beyond their comprehension. There are numerous reasons why visiting cemeteries is beneficial to genealogical research. The seven most important reasons are: Tombstone inscriptions can be goldmines of genealogical information.

Many old tombstones contain mini-biographies of the deceased. Cemetery records may contain significant amounts of information that may or may not appear in the more common record types. Some genealogists, provided they obtain proper permission, have left messages on tomb-

stones in hopes of contacting surviving family members, and, have been successful.

Plot placement, tombstone inscriptions, and cemetery records may fill in missing blanks in your research, lead you in new directions, or add insight to your knowledge of your ancestors as people.

Researchers often find out about children who died in infancy that they never knew about or discover a grave marker containing a symbol that suggests other records which may contain additional information.

Children who died in infancy may suggest clues to unknown family relationships.

Cemeteries fall into a variety of categories. Each type has its own unique characteristics. The

main types are listed below.

1. **City and County:** These are of fairly recent origin, some of them beginning about 1850, but most of them around 1900 or the time of state registration.

2. **Federal:** Usually associated with war veterans. You will have to depend upon Sexton’s records to find the plots here because they are too large to attempt searching without help.

3. **Private:** These usually begin in the 1900s. You **must** obtain permission from the land owner to gain access.

4. **Church:** These are the most common in America, British Isles, and Europe. The Sexton’s records would be the burial registers, if they exist. Re-

cently some of them have been indexed by the tombstones that are still in existence. If there is no stone now, there is no record. Researchers are strongly advised to study the local and state cemetery laws prior to visitation. When in doubt, local genealogical or historical societies are reliable sources for obtaining this type of information.

5. **Family:** These are quite popular in the Eastern and Southern parts of the U.S., Canada as well as parts of the British Isles and Europe. Researchers **must** obtain permission from the land owner for access. Often the only record, other than the tombstones, would be the record in a family Bible.

Continued on page 16



life peerages. He declared his passionate opposition to such titles for women, saying: "No sooner do you get two women in a Chamber than voices are raised and the debate becomes heated."

Out of office, Forbes joined the board of what became Grampian Television on its formation in 1960, serving for 28 years. In 1962 he told peers of his concern that the launch of BBC Two would make life tougher for less viable regional stations like Grampian.

He was deputy chairman of Tennent Caledonian Breweries for a decade, and later chaired Rolawn Ltd. A keen naturalist and ornithologist, he also took parties to study wildlife in East Africa.

Forbes became increasingly concerned at the growing influence of communism in Britain, saw Scottish devolution as a threat, and became disillusioned with Edward Heath, calling late in 1974 for Conservatives to replace him with a "real and inspiring leader". He would be an ardent admirer of Margaret Thatcher.

In his year as a minister, Forbes coincidentally chaired the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant for Aberdeenshire in 1958 and KBE in 1960.

Forbes married, in 1942, Rosemary Hamilton-Russell, eldest daughter of the 9th Viscount Boyne; they had two sons and a daughter.

He is succeeded as the 23rd Lord Forbes by his elder son, the Master of Forbes, Malcolm Nigel Forbes, born in 1946.

Bryan Mulcahy, *continued from page 15*

6. Fraternal Organizations: Organizations in this category will either have their own private cemeteries or a special section within a larger cemetery. The burial records may or may not be accessible to the public. In some cases, researchers can get the standard death certificate from the locality, but an official burial record must be obtained from the organization.

Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian
Fort Myers-Lee County Library at 2050 Central Avenue, Fort Myers, FL 33901-3917. Tel: (239) 533-4626; Fax: (239) 485-1160 or E-Mail: Bryan at Bmulcahy@leegov.com

Mea Culpa...

I'm without my "computer teacher" and trying to finish this publication all by myself.

Notes, careful although I wrote them, don't do the same things when I am alone.

I just wish to ask your kind indulgence for this issue - and I still have much of Section B to do...but I'm afraid it will take this issue and maybe another couple before I am comfortable with this new and very different program. By then, I sure do hope that I am more familiar and feel more at ease with this program.

This is a completely different program from my beloved PageMaker.

Another huge "thank you" to John Taggart from Charlotte for coming all that way to try to get things into my head.

I won't give up! I won't give up!

Skeets Cahoon, *continued from page 6*

plus numerous "adopted" children. Granddad loved all his grandkids very much - Thommy, Katie & Mary Koch, Martin & Terressa Cline, and Ian & Maddie Hamilton. He is also survived by two brothers, Lawrence Cahoon (Patti) of Asheboro and John Cahoon (Sue) of Boones Mill, VA.

The family will receive friends on Friday, March 22, at Forbis & Dick, N. Elm Street, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. Funeral services will be held Saturday, March 23rd, at 2:00 at Christ United Methodist Church, 410 N. Holden Road, Greensboro.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a gift to one of Skeet's favorite charities: The American Red Cross, 1501 Yanceyville St. Greensboro 27405 (indicate "For Greensboro use" on the check) or to the Hollis B. and Katherine K. Cahoon VT Corps of Cadets Scholarship. Checks should be made out to the Virginia Tech Foundation (indicate "VTCC Cahoon Scholarship" on the check) and mailed to Virginia Tech, University Development 0336, Blacksburg, VA 24060, Attn: Corps of Cadets.

Online condolences may be offered at www.forbisanddick.com

Clan Sinclair Association, Inc., (USA)



7 ft. x 9 ft. tent panel created by Heraldic Artist, Tom Freeman, for the 2009 Gathering in Edinburgh.

Clan Sinclair Association, Inc. (U.S.A.)



Do you know who came to North America
almost 100 years before Columbus' famous voyage?

Prince Henry Sinclair in 1398!

Come join (and enjoy) your Sinclair family

President

Melvin Sinclair

**224 Bransfield Road
Greenville, SC 296715**

864-268-3550

Mel@ClanSinclairSC.org



Membership Contact

Alta Jean Ginn

**12147 Holly Knoll Circle
Great Falls, VA 22066**

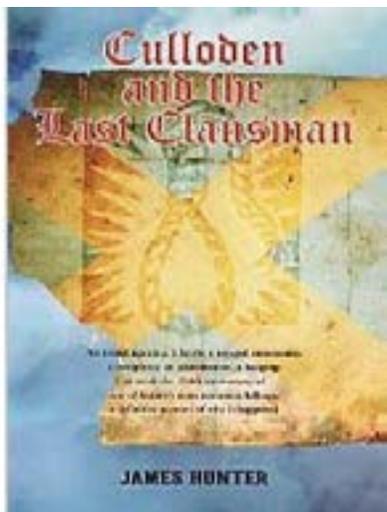
703-430-6745

aginn@cox.net

A HIGHLANDER AND HIS BOOKS

Culloden & the Last Clansman

James Hunter



REVIEWED By
FRANK R. SHAW, FSA SCOT,



If you read *A Dance Called America* by James Hunter, you will

Now, back to the story.

This murder shook all of Great Britain, from

not want to miss his latest book, *Culloden and the Last Clansman*.

If you missed the first dance, do yourself a favor and not miss this one. A wonderful tune it is!

James Hunter writes about the murder of Colin Campbell, a government agent and staunch Hanoverian. We are led to believe the accused murderer may be James Stewart, a supporter of Bonnie Prince Charlie and a staunch Jacobite.

The author has lived his entire life in the same community where the murder took place 250 years ago.

In this book, Hunter rivals Sir Walter Scott, the greatest writer of his time and father of the historical novel.

The tale that the author weaves in this case with his use of historical facts is nothing short of brilliant. You cannot compare Hunter to Robert Burns because he does not write poetry and Burns did not write stories like Hunter.

Scott did both, and although Scott has not been in vogue for many years, there are signs that is he “starting to come back into fashion again after long neglect,” according to Stewart Lamont in his book, *When Scotland Ruled the World*.

jurascot@earthlink.net

the man in the street to the man on the throne, George II. Someone had

to pay for the murder of Colin Campbell.

The most likely suspect, Alan Breck Stewart, had quietly slipped out of the country, leaving James Stewart guilty by association. The Duke of Cumberland (yes, the “Butcher” himself) thought the Scottish authorities were treating this matter too lightly. Thus, both the policies and loyalties of the Scottish authorities were called into question, and the King’s younger son, the British hero of the ’45 (he of the flower named after him, “Sweet William” in England but forever known as “Stinking Willie” in Scotland) “thought it prudent to ensure that James Stewart was hanged.”

Scotland’s Lord Justice General and Lord Advocate both tried the case, one as judge and the other as prosecutor. History records that the former was a Campbell and the latter was a Grant.

Both were on the hot seat almost as much as the man fighting for his life. Even though a panel of three judges was used, no one wanted London to feel anything but their loyalty and obedience. To make sure the verdict was a “guilty” one (a ver-

Continued on page 19

dict authorities wanted and had to have to maintain good relations with the Hanoverian government), a jury of fifteen men was selected, eleven of them Campbells. How about them numbers!

A better jury could not have been found, bribed or paid for on behalf of the Scottish authorities.

The trial began at five o'clock in the morning and did not break until fifty hours later.

Why so long?

During those days, Scottish criminal courts required evidence to be heard in a single sitting, and sixty witnesses, a mockery if there ever was one, were heard during that time.

No wonder it took three judges! Adding to the government's case was the fact that a recently fired gun that belonged to James had been dug up along with some broadswords. James helped set the noose around his own neck with his loose whisky talk and threats about and toward Colin Campbell.

Some testified that James had planned the ambush of Colin Campbell that was carried out by Alan Breck, and James did not refute that testimony.

The handwriting was on the wall, and it was as if James was reconciled to meeting his fate. The only question left for us to ask since it was proven that James sent Alan money after the assassination, is why it took five hours of deliberation to come up with the "guilty as charged" verdict.

He was sentenced to hang...in chains. Months later, while on the scaffold, he said, "I die a worthy member of the Episcopal Church of Scotland...may the same God pardon and forgive all that ever did or wished me evil, as I do from my heart forgive them...Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly."

As he climbed the steps to meet his executioner, it is said he quoted verses from Psalm 35 ending with "Lord, rescue my soul from their destructions.

"Cnap a' Chaolais, the location where Stewart was hanged, was well traveled by Highlanders and chosen by the government to send a message of

intimidation to all who passed by.

The Hanoverians wanted all to see the "gruesome spectacle of James Stewart's chained-up and slowly rotting corpse." A detachment of officers, including seventeen soldiers, watched over his body day and night. More than two years after the hanging, portions of his still remaining skeleton fell to the ground.

Edinburgh immediately smelled a conspiracy by Highlanders and launched an investigation, only to find that a winter gale had caused the bones to fall. In an effort to keep James hanging around a little longer, soldiers from Fort William came to put the bones back on the gibbet since local people would have no part of such a gruesome chore. Even the soldiers had to be induced by whisky to replace Stewart's bones on the gibbet!

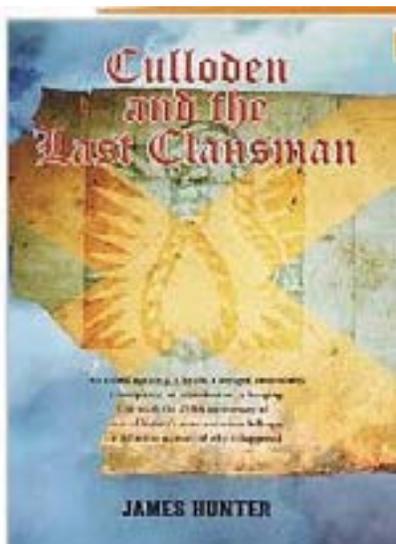
More years passed and down came James again, a bone at a time. This time, however, a Culloden veteran, John Stewart, gathered up each one. This Stewart eventually pieced together enough of the skeletal re-

mains of James to arrange for a burial inside the crumbling walls of the auld Keil church at Duror.

I believe James Hunter proves his point "that, when they hanged James Stewart on the afternoon of Wednesday, 8 November 1752, the Hanoverian authorities also hanged the last clansman" since by this time the Clan system (as a lot of us want to believe was still possible) was no more. All that was left of the old Clan system was memories.

Or, should I say, the romance of the old Clan system is all that was left, then and today. Hunter's style of writing makes you want to stay up all night to finish the book.

His reputation is such that you want him to hurry and get his next book to the marketplace. If I was to score this book like I did my students at Roseboro High School in North Carolina too many years ago to tell, James Hunter would get an A+. I think Sir Walter Scott might give him the same!



Alice Lorene Leslie Park was born in Little Rock Arkansas to Florence Lorence Dice Leslie and Edward Postal Leslie in 1910.

She lived her early years in Oklahoma City, graduating from Central High School in 1926. She attended both Southern Methodist University and the University of Oklahoma studying Journalism.

Alice and Lee Park were married in Oklahoma in 1932. Owing to Mr. Park's employment as a geophysicist with various oil companies, the couple moved

many times throughout Texas and Louisiana before settling in Midland in 1941.

Alice and Lee Park were married for seventy-two years prior to Lee's death in 2003 at age 93.

Mrs. Park volunteered in many capacities during her years living in Midland. She was a Girl Scout leader and also helped her long-time friend, Winifred Morgan, at the Girl Scout House on Washington St. Her Girl Scout involvement plus many other activities earned her the award of "Distinguished Woman of Girl Scouts".

Alice was also active politically, serving for many years as a Precinct Chairman, as an Election Judge, and was a "fixture" at Early Voting. Further, Mrs. Park held many offices in Republican Women's Club, serving as President among other capacities.

She was an active member of the Midland Society of University Women. Mrs. Park served as Regent of the Lt. William Brewer Chapter of the Daughter's of the American Revolution-an office she held proudly. She founded the Joseph Black Chapter of Children of the American Revolution in Midland and was an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Petroleum Museum,

Continued on page 26

***2013 brings Robert Burns
Project to America!***
**See more information in
Section B this issue!**



The Shield of
Thomas Randolph
as Earl of Moray



Captured at Methven in the debacle that all but ended the reign of Robert the Bruce, the king's nephew Thomas Randolph was forced by his captors to track his king and the Army of Bruce. His heart still yearned for Scotland to be free, and at Loudoun Plain, he calmly turned his back to the English and rode across the battlefield to rejoin the Scots and stand against Edward's army.
Find out more about the epic story at....

REBELKING.COM

**MacDuffee Clan Society of America, Inc.
Of Clan MacFie
Organized July 1962**

Registrar:
Marty Rosser
336-275-8619
martyrosser50@aol.com

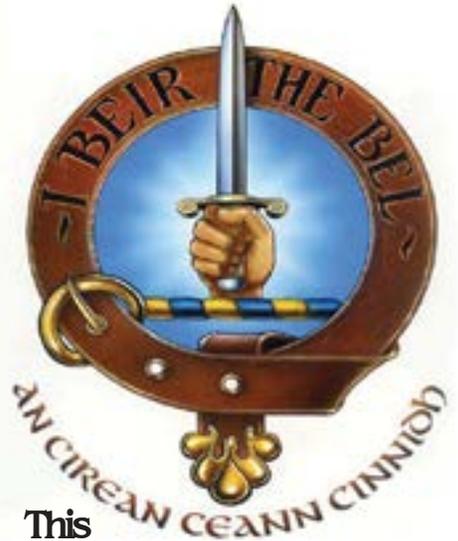
Annual General Meeting each year in July
at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

Genealogy Chairman: Richard Ledyard
865-671-2555 rledyard@tds.net

Treasurer: David Nathan McDuffie
678-557-9215 dnmcduffie@hotmail.com



Clan Bell International



This old West Marche Clan, one of Border clans since the early 1100s, were retainers of the Great House of Douglas and also allied with the best border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive, and to survive, they engaged in the “rieving” of the period and participated in many battles against the English.

Declared “unruly” by the Scottish Parliament, many of the Clan emigrated to the Ulster Plantation after 1610.

After William Bell, called *Redcloak* and Chief of the Clan died in 1628, the chiefship became dormant, and without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell International (CBI) in the United States represents Clan Bell world-wide with a coordinated network of 20 International Representatives, each representing the Clan in their own country.

CBI is a charitable organization of Scottish descendants and friends of Family/Clan Bell dedicated to the study of Bell genealogy and Scottish history and the perpetuation of family tradition.

CBI cordially invites membership inquires from persons Named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. Quarterly newsletter published. Tents hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast.

President:
William H. Bell
2322 Shadow Hill Drive
Riverside, CA 92506
clanbellusa@sbcglobal.net

Visit our Web site:
clanbell.org

Membership Secretary:
Alta Jean Ginn
12147 Holly Knoll Circle
Great Falls, VA 22066
aginn@cox.net



A message from John Hendrickson, Oak Ridge, TN He is Ramsey member #754 Ramsey/Ramsay DNA
Project Administrator (Volunteer)

Mr. Hendrickson says, "Genealogical Research combined with DNA results brings families together.

You may view the latest Ramsey DNA results or **ORDER YOUR KIT** at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ramsey/index-DNA.html>

There are over 3500 Ramsay/Ramsey heritage files in our private sortable data base and at the "Games" many times I will be available to search the file for your ancestors to determine if your line is DNA tested. If so, I will provide you with contacts in just minutes and share with you other possible branches of your family.

Willy Sinclair takes his person to the parade!

Chev. Ralph Comp is led by his faithful companion, Willy Sinclair, at the Charleston (SC) St. Patrick's Day parade.

Clan Colquhoun Society Of NA

2984 Mike Drive

Marietta, GA 30064

sijepuis@bellsouth.net

Colquhoun/Calhoun, Cowan, MacClintock, MacManus. Applications available online at http://www.geocities.com/clancolquhoun_na/home.html



Clan Sutherland Society of North America



Septs and Associated Families:

**Cheyne, Clyne, Duffus, Federith,
Gray, Keith, Mowat, Murray, Oliphant.**

For membership information, please visit our website at
www.clansutherland.org

You may contact
the president:

George Sutherland
9613 Highstream Court
Charlotte, NC 28269

Clan Chief,
Lady Elizabeth,
Countess of Sutherland



Elizabeth Sutherland, Countess of Sutherland
Chief of Clan Sutherland

Would you like for your clan to be represented in these pages?

These ads for Scottish Clans and genealogical groups are \$5.00 each issue, never mind the size. (My way of saying "Thank You" for all the kindnesses given to me by the Scottish community over the last 20 plus years.)

Just send me in jpeg format your crest or other symbols you'd like in your ad...and the copy (words) you wish...your billing address...and that's it. Send to bethscribble@aol.com.

Clan Buchanan Society, International, Inc.

Bohanan		Macwattie
Buchanan		Macwhirter
Colman	Macolwan	Macwhorter
Cormack	Maccormac(k)	Masters
Cousland	Maccommon	Masterson
Dewar	Maccoubrey	Morrice
Donleavy	Maccubbin	Morris
Dove, Dow	Maccubbing	Morrison
Gibb(s)(y)	Maccubin	(of Perthshire only)
Gibbon	Macdonleavy	Murchie
Gibson	Macegeorge	Murchison
Gilbert	Macgibbon	Richardson
Gilbertson	Macgilbert	Risk
Harper	Macgreusich	Rusk(ie)
Harperson	Macgubbin	Ruskin
Leavy	Macinally	Spittal
Lennie	Macindeo(r)	Spittle
Lenny	Mackibb	Walter
Macaldonich	Mackibbon	Walters
Macalman	Mackinlay	Wason
Macandeior	Mackinley	Wasson
Macaslan	Macmaster	Waters
Macaslin	Macmaurice	Watson
Macauselan	Macmorris	Watt
Macauslan(in)	Macmurchie	Watters
Macausland	Macmurphy	Weir
Macauslane	Macneur	Wuill
Macalman	Macnuir	Wool
Macalmon(t)	Macquat	Wule
Macammond	Macquattie	Yuille
Macasland	Macquattiey	Yool
Macchruiter	Macquyer	Yule
Macolman	Macquinten	Zuill



For membership information, contact:
bethscribble@aol.com



Continued from page 20

having volunteered for over 1,000 hours. Recently she received the first Centurian Award given for a volunteer over age 100. Plus, she could be found for many years in the very early morning at COM doing her exercises with her "pool family".

Alice is survived by her daughters, Dr. Leslie Jane Park of Arcadia, CA, and Susan Alice Eiteljorg and husband Jack Morgan Eiteljorg of Boerne, TX; two granddaughters, Leslie Suzanne Davenport and Kathryn Elizabeth Wallace and their husbands, William Davenport and Michael Wallace, all of Austin. She is also survived by five great grandsons.

Alice Leslie Park was highlighted on the cover of the April 2012 issue of the *Grip Fast Journal*, shown with her daughter Dr. Leslie Jane Park and granddaughter Leslie Suzanne Davenport on the occasion of Alice's 102nd birthday.

With thanks to the Clan Leslie Gripfast.

Send your Flowers of the Forest,
please, to bethscribble@aol.com

KY Transportation Cabinet **free road assistance**

If you travel Kentucky's interstates and parkways you have probably seen the SAFE PATROL truck. This is a free service to stranded motorists. Put their number in your cell phone.

The KY Transportation Cabinet has a service that most people aren't aware of. It's called the Safe Patrol. If you are on an interstate or parkway and need assistance with your car.

They can provide gas, oil, air for flat tires, jump batteries and other minor repairs free of charge.

The telephone number to call is 1-877-367-5982. This is a good number to put in your cell phone.

Below is the website that details what they provide.

<http://transportation.ky.gov/Incident-Management/Pages/Safe-Patrol.aspx>



The Armstrong Clan Society

Dedicated to the Armstrongs, Crosiers, Fairbairns, Grosiers, Nixons and those interested in these surnames

The Armstrong Clan Society was organized on October 8, 1981 and is incorporated in the state of Georgia, USA. The Society is recognized as a Section 501 (c) (3) not for profit organization and exempt from U.S. federal income tax.

On September 24, 1984, the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Scotland granted warrant to the Lyon Clerk to matriculate in the Public Register of All Arms and Bearings in Scotland in the name of the Armstrong Clan Society, Inc., the Coat of Arms in the upper left on this page. Our motto “SEMPER INVICTUS” can be translated as “Always Unconquered”.

Objectives of the Armstrong Clan Society:

1. To seek friendship and unity among all Armstrongs, its septs and associated families.
2. To provide for the preservation of Armstrong artifacts unique to the family.
3. To serve as a genealogical and historical resource for the membership and the general public.
4. To provide news, Armstrong history, items of general interest, and genealogy via our newsletter *The Armstrong Chronicles*.
5. To establish worldwide geographic membership representation.

Membership

All Armstrongs, Croziers, Fairbairns, Groziers and Nixons (regardless of the spelling) and their descendants, are eligible for full membership in The Armstrong Clan Society. In the United States and Canada, dues are \$25 per year or \$45 for 2 years. All memberships are family memberships which includes two adults and all minor children. In all other countries, dues are \$35 per year. All dues are payable in US funds.

For a membership application email Peter Armstrong at peter.armstrong1.3@gmail.com or download from <http://www.armstrong.org/membership.htm>. Note: “spouse” on the application includes: spouse; domestic partner; or any other adult living at the same address.



Thirteen CDUSA Regions cover the United States

With membership,
you will receive your
regional newsletter
several times each year, plus
the CDUSA national publication,
By Sea By Land, twice each year.

Clan Donald USA

There is no joy without Clan Donald!

High Commissioner
Forrest Lee Piver
340 Main Street
Narrows, VA 24124
(540) 726-7614
fpiver@yahoo.com



Membership Secretary
Marion Schmitz
1685 Casitas Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91103
(626)398-6343
zb4ms@juno.com

To see the many names on the Clan Donald sept/allied family list, please visit:

<http://www.clan-donald-usa.org>

Did you know that Australia has had its very own Standing Stones since 1991?

This is an Early Article About The Glen Innes Standing Stones. The Australian Standing Stones Will Acknowledge Celtic Communities Historical And Cultural Contribution To The Development Of Australia.

(Editor's note: Even though the article is over 20 years old, I thought it was worth sharing because not only is it interesting, it demonstrates the influence of the Scots culture and how widespread globally that our people are.)

In keeping with its Celtic origins, Glen Innes, through the hard work of its local citizens and District Tourist Association, is to become the home of the "Australian Standing Stones".

Missing out on having Scotland's Bicentenary Cairn located in the town, it was decided to apply for the Standing Stones. As part of this application and acceptance of Glen Innes as the site, the Mayor of Glen Innes, Ald. David Donnelly, visited Scotland.

The Standing Stones of Callanish on the Isle of Lewis where he visited are among the best preserved in the United Kingdom. It was upon his return that the Celtic Council of Australia decided to build a monument to recognise the contribution of all Celtic races (i.e. Scottish, Irish, Welsh, Cornish, Manx and Breton) to Australian culture.

It is anticipated that the array of Stones, the only ones to be constructed outside the United Kingdom in recent times, will be completed by late 1991.

Importantly, they will educate the general community, particularly the young, strengthen Celtic and Australian ties, and establish a meeting place for people of Celtic origin. Hence, the site may even play "host to future international "Gatherings of the Clans".

Often referred to as "Druid's Stones", because the Druids "were possibly the last of the priesthood able to read and follow directions given, it is important to note that they did not build the monuments.

Consequently they hold no religious significance. History explains that these megalithic monuments were built by Stone Age people as calendars, with alignments on sunrise at certain times of the year, and also on the moon.

It is believed that the Babylonians could track the uneven movements of the sun and moon. These observa-

tions were also noted by the Egyptians, who found it possible to bring in their harvest before the Nile flooded.

Essentially the Glen Innes Standing Stones will be architecturally planned and designed, with a very Australian influence.

Set on a high hill overlooking the town, the array of stones will stand approximately 150 metres by 100 metres.

Collected from the local area 38 large granite stones about 4 metres in height, will prominently feature.

The Guide Stones will be focused on sunrise and sunset at both the Summer and Winter Solstices. These Guide Stones will consist of a Gaelic Stones for other Scots, Irish and Manx, a Brythonic Stone for the Welsh, Cornish and Bretons, and Australis Stone.

Stones marking the four points of the compass will represent the Southern Cross.

In view of the construction of the Australian Standing Stones, initial steps have been taken to create an atmosphere in Glen Innes familiar to Celtic peoples.

Major streets have had their names translated into Gaelic, and an inauguration and dedication ceremony is planned to coincide with the Celtic Festival of "IM-BOLG" on the 1st February 1992.

Heading the list of entertainers for this major event will be Val Doonican,

This information provided by Peter Alexander, Chairman, Australian Council for the Standing Stones.



Thanks to the *Dunrobin Piper* from
Clan Sutherland.

Scottish Athletic Competition Open for the 20th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games

HUNTERSVILLE, NC: The 20th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games is calling for athletes to come participate in the competition and camaraderie April 20 & 21, 2013.

The traditional Scottish athletic competitions called the "Heavy Events" include stone throws, weight throws, hammer throws, caber toss, sheaf toss, and similar traditional feats of strength.

Professional athletic competition will be Saturday, with "Class A" amateur heavy athletic competition on Saturday and the remaining amateur classes competing on Sunday.

Professional athletic demonstrations will also take place on Sunday. Note: Professional athletes are by invitation only. For event information and registration details, visit www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net.

Highland Games are a way of celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture and heritage, especially that of the Scottish Highlands.

Certain aspects of the games are so well known as to have become emblematic of Scotland, such as the bagpipes and the kilt.

Crowd favorites Eric Frasure and Larry Brock are just two of the professional athletes expected to compete in 2013.

Frasure holds the world records for the 56 lb Weight Toss and Sheaf Toss, and the North American record for the 22 lb Hammer Throw.

Larry Brock is the 2010 IHGF World Champion and holds the American record for the 28 lb Weight for Distance.

The 20th Annual Rural Hill Scottish Festival and Loch Norman Highland Games will be held rain or shine April 20 – 21, 2013.

Fun for the entire family, the Festival & Games weekend offers live traditional and Celtic rock music from seven national acts and a Saturday night Celtic Jam, genealogy search, over 30 Scottish clans and their representatives,

Piping and Drumming with sanctioned competitions and massed band performances, highland dancing with

sanctioned competitions, Scottish country dancing, an Ultra Trail 5K run, professional and amateur heavy athletics, long bow competition, battle axe competition, demonstrations, whiskey seminars, the "Kids' Zone" with children's activities, and Rural Hill's famous historic encampment. Complete information and tickets are available at www.ruralhillscottishfestivals.net

Proceeds from all annual events are used for the preservation of historic Rural Hill and its educational programs. Rural Hill is a part of the Mecklenburg County Parks and Recreation program, and is open to all members of the community for their enjoyment.

April 5th

Seven Nations (original members) reunion 20th anniversary

Plus Cutthroat Shamrock and Gypsies Ginger

April 6

3rd Annual Tartan Day

South

Historic Columbia

Speedway

For tickets information

<http://www.tartandaysouth.com/>