



In Memoriam ~ William Kay Cummings, Sr. 1947-2011



In 1984, Kay Cummings and his wife, Susan, came to Savannah from their home at Fort Valley, Georgia for a late-spring weekend. Arriving on Friday, they heard that the Savannah Scottish Games were to be held the next day, so on Saturday they attended their very first Scottish Games.

Scottish heavy athletes call themselves “throwers.” That day, while watching the throwers compete, someone invited Kay to participate, and a new era in Scottish Heavy Athletics began. The subsequent influence on this sport by the Cummings family, Kay, Susan and their son K.C.,

himself a former thrower who is now a heavy athletics judge, is truly extraordinary.

The following memories of Kay, written by one of his throwers, Kevin Dupis, describe Kay well:

If you had told me that a logger from central Georgia would become one of the more influential people in my life when I was growing up in New England, I would not have believed you. I met Kay Cummings in 2001 during a throwers’

The tributes on these pages come from both the Savannah Highland Games and the Central Florida Highland Games, Neil MacDonald and Eric King.

Continued on page 2

Flowers of the Forest

William Kay Cummings Sr., 63, died Saturday, March 19, 2011, in Fort Valley, Georgia.

A memorial service was held at Saturday, March 26, 2011 at Zenith Road Baptist Church, Fort Valley.

Born in Byron, Georgia, to the late Joseph Felton Cummings Sr. and Nancy "Nettie" Jane Kirksey Cummings, Mr. Cummings was a logger and avid participant in the Scottish Highland Games.

He revitalized the Highland Games in the South and established the Scottish Amateur Athletic Association to train members to compete.

Survivors include his wife of 45 years, Susan Tanner Cummings of Fort Valley; their children, K. C. Cummings Jr. of Fort Valley and Suzanne Benham and husband Chad of Atlanta; grandchild, Cullen Cummings; brother, Smokey Cummings of Macon and sister, Mae Rowell and husband Dan of Macon.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The American Cancer Society, 804 Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201.



Kay Cummings, *continued from page 1*

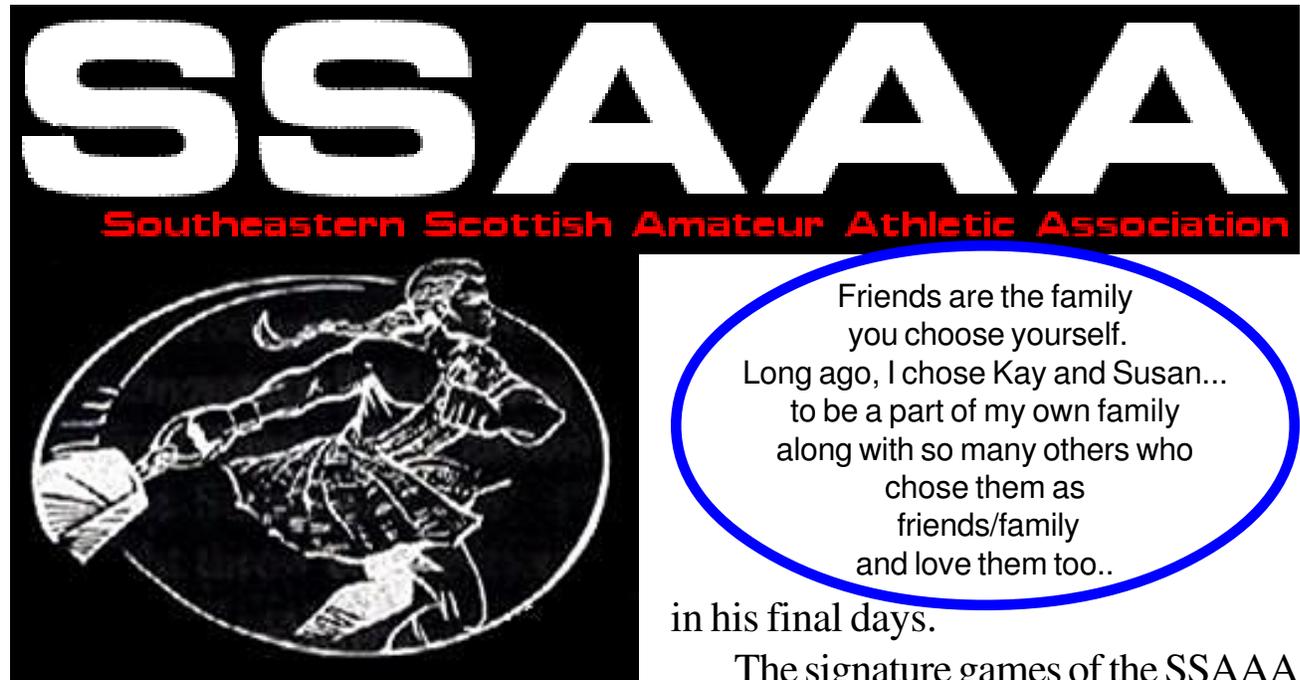
clinic in Ocala Florida. I am positive he made fun of my last name that day, something he would continue until the last time we spoke, more than a decade later. I didn't know it that day, but I had met a man that would help shape the rest of my life.

With the support and guidance of Kay and Susan, the highland games have grown into a major part of who I am. Friends I have made, trips I have taken, experiences I have had, and stories I

have heard are all due to my involvement in the games. I have grown as a participant in the games in so many ways, and much of that is due to the influence of the Cummings.

The best part about my story, is that is it a very common one. It would be difficult to find a highland games participant, particularly in the South, that has not been directly affected by the devotion Kay had to our sport.

Continued on page 3



Kay was a tremendous highland games competitor. His devotion to the growth of amateur Scottish athletics was fierce. Kay created the Southeastern Scottish Amateur Athletic Association in large part to champion his cause for the development and growth of amateur heavy athletics in the US.

Athletes worldwide have participated in SSAAA games and clinics. Many throwers have spent time at the Cummings home seeking to make themselves better throwers. Many of the perks that amateur Scottish athletes take for granted are things that Kay had fought for, and continued to fight for

Friends are the family
you choose yourself.
Long ago, I chose Kay and Susan...
to be a part of my own family
along with so many others who
chose them as
friends/family
and love them too..

in his final days.

The signature games of the SSAAA have become the upper echelon for amateur competitions. Invitations to the North/South and USA/Scotland games are cherished rewards for amateur Scottish athletes, and milestones for throwers seeking to rise to the professional ranks.

With Kay's passing, the games have lost a true champion in all aspects of the word. However, Kay's legacy will live on through the association he created, the competitions he helped mold, the friendships that were made through his influence, and through his wonderful family. I am eternally grateful for knowing him.

As are we all.

With many thanks to Eric King, who collected and sent to us these tributes to William Kay Cummings. We have all lost a true treasure. Susan told me that Kay died just a few days short of their 46th wedding anniversary. Susan, you are loved!

& 18th Rural Hill Scottish Festival Loch Norman Highland Games, April 15, 16, 17, 2011





& 18th Rural Hill Scottish Festival & Loch Norman Highland Games, April 15, 16, 17, 2011



I took 237 photos of the Parade of Tartans at the 2011 Loch Norman Highland Games. If your clan was there and if you'd like photo(s) for your own newsletter, please write to me at bethscribble@aol.com and I'll see what I have of your clan and will send them to you via email. I have MOST of the clans and am happy to share. (No charge, of course.)

Annual Meeting and Picnic to be Held in Tally, FL

The Annual Meeting of the St. Andrew Society of Tallahassee will be held at the Piney-Z Lodge on Sunday, May 1 at 4:00 p.m. Once again, our picnic will be catered by the Seine Yard. We do however need a few members to bring a dessert.

Of course, on the agenda is the election of officers and trustees for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

Nominees include: President: Doris Henderson; V.P.: Laurie Long; Sec.: Linda Frazier; Treas.: Evan Hume; Chaplain: Gary Mathews; Educator: Jean Holzapfel; Events: Ruth Pryor; Historian: Nick Baldwin; Membership: Babs Stewart; Webmaster: Darwin Gilmore; Past-Pres.: Dan McDonald.

Trustee nominees include: Jay Breeze, Jim Hart, Deborah Hart, John Elliot and Don Wilson.

Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Additionally, officer and committee reports will provide you with the "state of your Society".

This will be *the* opportunity to learn more about your Society.

Don't forget to sign up for a dessert.

Probably of fairly high importance...because members forget every year... is that this is a **Bring Your Own Adult Beverage** event. We will provide soft drinks, mixers, ice and cups but your personally favorite beverage must be brought by you.

We will begin serving food at about 5:30 p.m. See you there! For complete information and to make a reservation for the event, please contact ericking@comcast.net

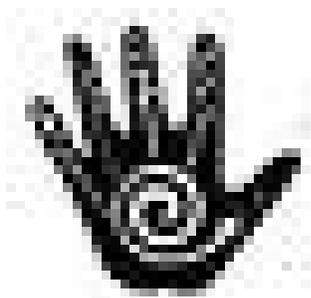


The Blue Ridge Brass, Montreat Scottish Pipes & Drums, Ed Miller - at The Kennedy Center and more!

If you happened to be in the Washington, DC area around Tartan Day you had a treat. The Brass and Pipe band, the Blue Ridge Brass and Montreat Scottish Pipes and Drums performed several times while in the area, including a concert at The Kennedy Center.

Venues included: The Marine Museum and Maryland Hall. The groups played at Arlington National Cemetery and, of course, The Kennedy Center.

Well known Scottish entertainer, Ed Miller, accompanied them at the Maryland Hall and Kennedy Center performances.



Melody really is an Indian talk at JGS May meeting in Jacksonville, Florida

The Jacksonville Genealogical Society May monthly meeting will be conducted at the Webb-Westconnett Branch Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, Fl., at 1:30 pm on May 21, 2011.

It is with great pleasure to have Melody Porter. Her topic will be on **Melody Really is an Indian.**

Can a blue eyes blonde really be a Cherokee and Choctaw Indian? Melody found out!!

She will discuss her research of how she not only found her Indian ancestry, but documented it; the connection she has to her heritage and how the perpetual Indian Princess story was proven. She will provide Cherokee and Choctaw stories and research examples.

Researching in a Straight Line—Backwards! will be presented by Ann Staley in a five week session beginning

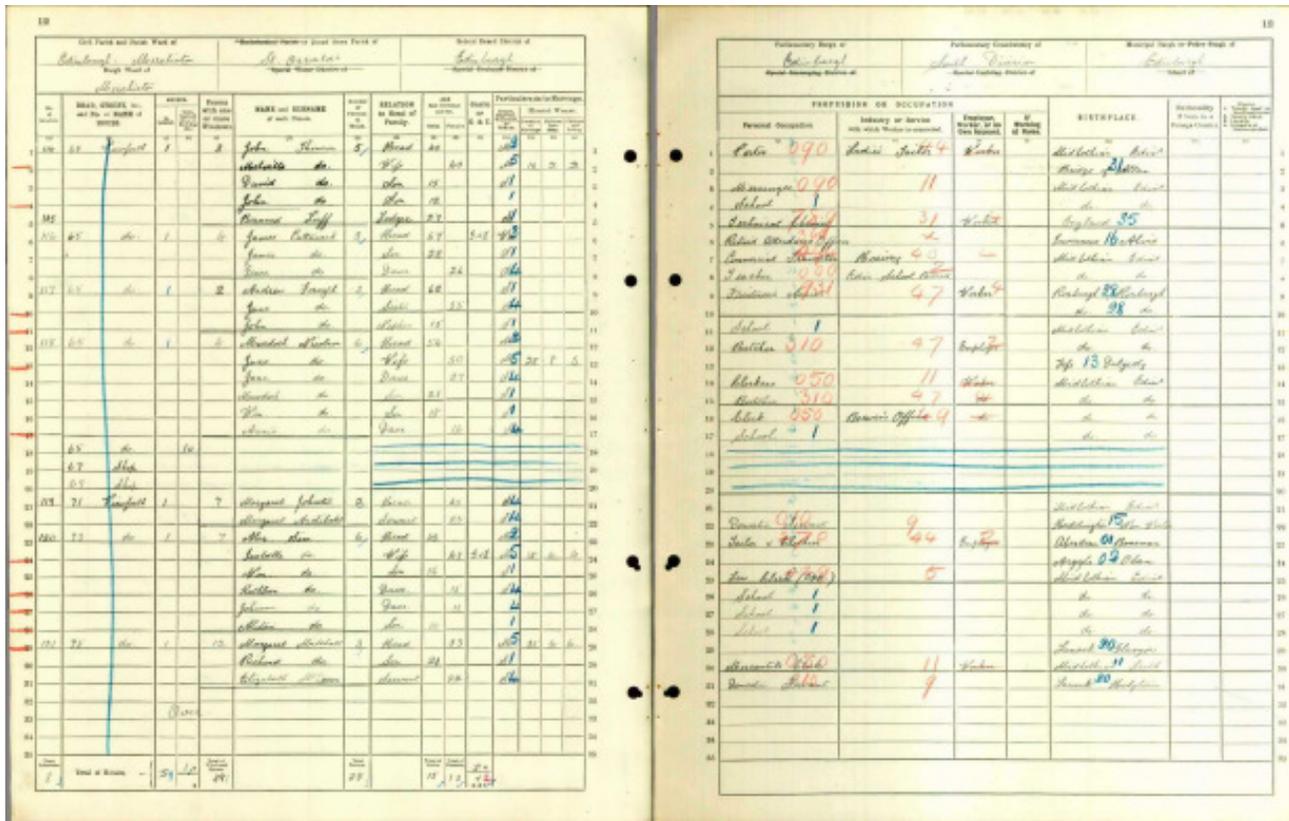
on May 21, 2011 at the Webb-Westconnett Branch Library, 6887 103rd Street, Jacksonville, Fl at 10:00 am to 1:00pm. There is no charge for this class.

This class is for beginner and experienced researcher looking for a refresher course. Subjects include: Back to Basics; Research Documentation; Sources-What are they; Dates, Places, and Relationships; Use of Vital, Court and Church Records; Recorded Keeping; and much more.

Certificates of Completion will be given to those people who attend at least four of the five class dates. Register on line at [hht://jaxgen.home.comcast.net](http://jaxgen.home.comcast.net) or mail you names, address, city, state, zip code, phone number and email address to The Jacksonville Genealogical Society, Inc.; P.O. Box ; Jacksonville, Fl 32205-0756

**The Gatlinburg, TN games
for 2011 have been cancelled**

Great news - the 1911 Scottish census now online on *ScotlandsPeople*



This census details information collected from more than 4.7 million Scots - marking a century since the data was first gathered.

The census images include the name, address, age, occupation, birthplace and marital status of everyone counted in the 1911 census, as well as details about their children. For the first time, the census images are available in full colour.

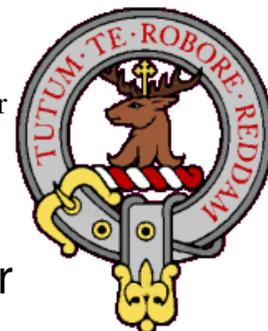
Visit the ScotlandsPeople website to view details of Famous Scots including John Logie Baird and Charles Rennie Mackintosh, and ancestors of Ewan McGregor and Gordon Ramsay.

For full details visit: <http://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/Content/Help/index.aspx?r=546&2076>

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

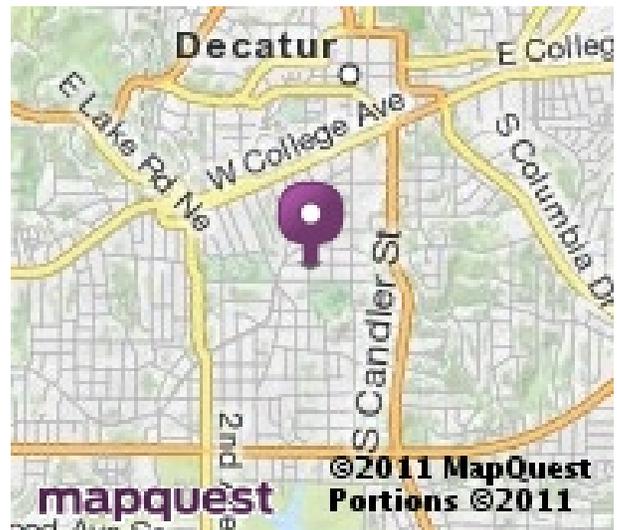


If you are from Georgia - please act on this now! The Georgia Archives in Morrow may close its doors

The Fiscal Year 2012 budget that passed the Georgia House of Representatives on March 11th as HB 78 includes budget reductions that probably will result in the State Archives closing its doors to the public. The budget contains two items that together would reduce the Archives' budget by at least \$300,000.

Over 65% of the \$4.6 million Archives base budget, already heavily pared by cuts over preceding years, goes to pay fixed costs (think rent, utilities, etc.), which cannot be reduced. This means the target for the cuts will be staff. And if the staff is reduced, the Georgia Archives probably will have to close to the public, Friends of Georgia Archives & History Chair Shadron says in an open letter online.

Archaeologists, genealogists and many others use records stored at the Georgia Archives regularly. Most materials are not online,



so visiting the Archives is the only way to obtain the unique information stored there. Please contact your Senator now if you are concerned about this situation.

To read more: <http://thesga.org:80/2011/03/2012-state-budget-georgia-archives-funding-reduced-in-hb-78/>

Coastal Georgia Genealogical Society to feature attorney Eugene Caldwell

The speaker for our May 15th Coastal Georgia Genealogical Society meeting will be local attorney Eugene Caldwell. He will talk to us about researching estate records.

Please email me at BackRiver@comcast.net if you have specific questions about an old will or other estate

document so I can send the questions to him ahead of time.

This time, our meeting will be on the THIRD Sunday of May, due to Mothers' Day, at 2:00 PM on Sunday at the Airport Fire Station, St. Simon's Island, Georgia.

Everyone is welcome to the meeting.

Clan Baird Society Worldwide

Wrex Diem, president
2200 South Osseo Road
Osseo, Michigan 49266
(517) 523-4634
alakazam@frontiernet.net



www.clanbaird.net

THE CRAWFORD SURNAME Y-DNA PROJECT

You are cordially invited to participate in the
Crawford surname Y- DNA project.

Information, listing of current results,

and signing up for testing can be accessed at —

<http://www.clancrawford.org/home.htm>

To contact the project coordinator, e-mail

Kevan Crawford, Ph.D. at:

Kevan@clancrawford.org

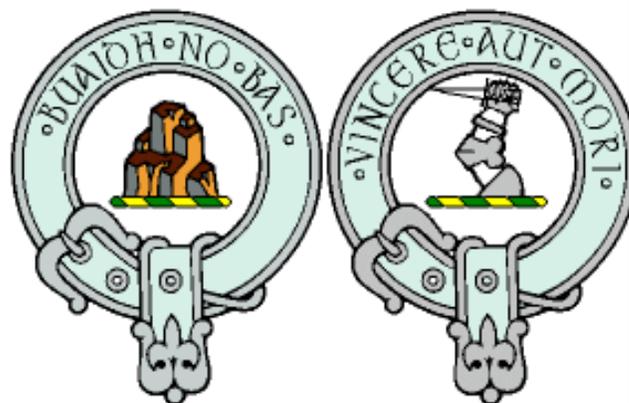
Clan Macneil

Association

of America

If you are a Macneil or any of the following "Sept" names, then you have found the clan that you are looking for.

- Macneil
- MacNeil
- Macniel
- MacNiel
- Macneill
- MacNeill
- MacNeillie
- Macneal
- MacNeal
- Macneale
- MacNeale
- MacNeilage
- Macneilage
- MacNelly
- Macnelly
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- Mcneale
- McNeale
- McNeilage
- Mcneilage
- McNelly
- Mcnelly
- McNeally
- Mcneally
- Neil
- Neal
- Neall
- Neale
- Neill
- Niel
- Niell
- O'Neal
- O'Neil
- O'Niel
- O'Neill



**“Cuimhnich Air Na Daoine
o’n D’thainig thu.”**

**- Remember the men from
whom you have come.**

President C. McNeill Baker, Jr.
6959 Almours Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32117-2628
clanmacneilua.us

- Oneil
- Oneill
- Nelson
- Neilson
- Nielson
- MacGougan
- Macgougan
- MacGrail
- Macgrail
- MacGugan
- Macgugan
- MacGuigan
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- Macguigan
- McGougan
- Mcgougan
- McGrail
- Mcgrail
- McGugan
- Macgugan
- McGuigan
- ...and
- Mcguigan

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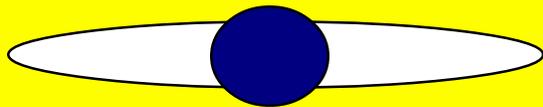
all you have to do is visit

[www.electricscotland.com/
maillist.htm](http://www.electricscotland.com/maillist.htm)

That's Alastair's ElectricScotland
newsletter

sent free each Friday..

but it is also where the new issues
of BNFT are announced!



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John McCutcheon concert 8:00 PM, Friday, April 8th Community Arts Cafe, 411 West Fourth Street, Winston-Salem

John McCutcheon was the first artist Fiddle & Bow ever presented back in 1981. He has performed a number of times over the years, including our 25th Anniversary concert back in 2006.

He is one of the most popular artists on the American folk scene and a multiple Grammy nominee.

Highly skilled on fiddle, hammered dulcimer, banjo and guitar, John's shows have been described as "...little feats of magic."

After graduating from St. John's University in Minnesota John traveled south to learn from some of the masters of traditional music like Roscoe Holcomb and I.D. Stamper. He is considered a master of the hammered dulcimer and is one of the first to popularize the instrument back in the 1970s and 1980s.

In addition to being a fine musician, John is also an excellent songwriter and interpreter of traditional songs and the songs of his contemporaries like Si Kahn.

John's latest album, "Passage," released last year, was his 34th recording.

McCutcheon has also produced albums by other artists and released a number of instructional videos. The return of John McCutcheon to our stage is always a welcome and exciting event.

NOTE: We may need to remove the tables from the Underground Theatre in order to maximize the seating so we are recommending that you come early, buy or give us your ticket, stake out your seat and then go back out into the atrium area of the Community Arts Cafe and get something to eat and drink.

Tickets can be purchased through the Community Arts Cafe by credit card at (336) 793-8000 or in person at the Community Arts Café, or by mail from Fiddle & Bow, 4201 Thorn Ridge Rd., Winston-Salem, NC 27106. Tickets sold in advance will be held at the door. There will be a \$1.50 service charge for credit card purchases of tickets. <http://www.folkmusic.com/> Cover: \$20.00

Ulster Roots - **Why Did They Come to America?**

Richard K. MacMaster

What led people to leave their homes and risk a long voyage across the Atlantic? The story is different for every emigrant. But for many who came from Ulster in the eighteenth century, as for many who come to our shores today, it was the hope of a better future for their children. They saw the Colonies as a promised land.

Given the large numbers who left Ulster and the small geographical area of the province, it is a reasonable guess that nearly everyone knew or knew of someone who had gone to America. When a letter from one of their old neighbors arrived in Ireland, it was quickly passed around among relatives and friends. Eighteenth-century emigrant letters invariably told about the high wages and low price of land in North America and the great crops raised there. Quite a few wrote home, however, to warn against coming to the Colonies without money or a skilled trade.

In some cases, merchants or shipowners arranged to have letters published in the *Belfast News Letter* or one of the Dublin papers or they paid to have the letter printed as a handbill and distributed around the country. Sometimes the printed letter found its way back to America in the hands of a newly-arrived immigrant. It was in this way that a letter from James Murray to his Presbyterian pastor came to the attention of the editor of the *Williamsburg Virginia Gazette*, who introduced it with these words.

“The following Letter is said to have been sent from a Person settled in New-York, to his Countrymen, to encourage them to come over thither; which, that it might have the better Effect on the People, was printed and dispers’d in Ireland. A Copy of which being brought over, in one of the late Ships, We present our Readers with it.” (*Virginia Gazette*, October 7, 1737.) Although the printed letter came originally on one of the immigrant ships arriving at Newcastle and Philadelphia that summer, Ben Franklin reprinted it in his *Pennsylvania*



Gazette a month later from the Virginia paper. (*Pennsylvania Gazette*, November 3, 1737.)

Murray sent his letter to the Rev. Baptist Boyd, Presbyterian minister at Aughelaw, near Aughnacloy, County Tyrone. He told his pastor: “Read this Letter, and look, and tell aw the poor Folk of your Place, that God has open’d a Door for their Deliverance; for here is ne Scant of Breed here. . . .” His reasons for encouraging emigration are not just that no one goes hungry, but that there are no landlords or tithe collectors to take away what the poor man has raised. “for here aw that a Man warks for is his ane, there are ne ravenus Hunds to rive it fre us here, ne sick Word as Herbingers is kend here, but every yen enjoys his ane, there is ne yen to tak awa yer Corn, yer Potatoes, yer Lint or Eggs.”

I trust *Family Tree* readers will be able to understand Murray’s use of the Scots language. His letter is unusual in that it is written in Ulster Scots rather than in standard English as are most business and personal letters surviving from that time. For that reason, Murray’s letter has attracted a good deal of scholarly attention. As long ago as 1925 Earl Gregg Swem of the Virginia State Library published it with his notes and just last year Michael Montgomery reproduced the text in his essay “On the Trail of Early Ulster Immigrant Letters” (in Patrick Fitzgerald and Steve Ickringill, *Atlantic Crossroads: Historical connections between Scotland, Ulster and North America* [Newtownards, Co. Down: Colourpoint Books, 2001]).

One of the first questions scholars asked was whether it was a real letter. Newspapers sometimes printed “letters” written in dialect or colloquial speech to make a point or as an attempt at humor. Jonathan Swift, for instance, published a “letter” from a fisherman in the Ards peninsula telling about his supposed

Continued on page 23



Have you been awarded your own Arms?

If you have been awarded your own Arms by the Lyon Court in Edinburgh, Scotland, we'd like to feature them in these pages. Just send a note telling us about how and why you were honored plus a rendering of your Arms in color (jpeg files, please) and a copy of your Achievement in any Word format.

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A Highlander And His Books....

Elmira: Death Camp of the North

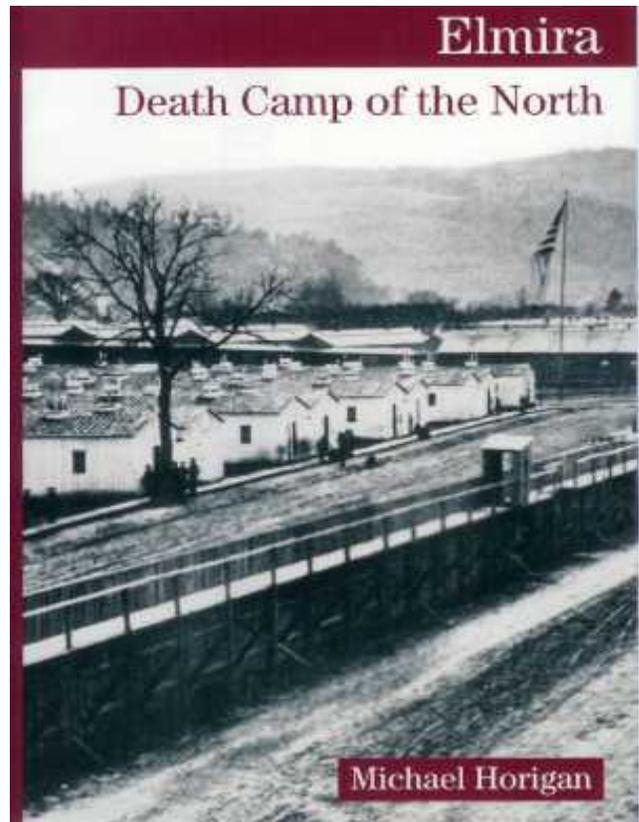
by Michael Horigan

Reviewed By Frank R. Shaw, FSA Scot, Dawsonville, GA

On July 6, 1864, a prison camp known as Elmira (New York) opened for business. In its one year of existence during America's Civil War (369 days), records confirm that 12,123 Southern prisoners-of-war were guests of the infamous Barracks No. 3. It closed 12 months later on July 11, 1865. Unfortunately 3,000 of the POWs never made it out alive. This high death rate, almost 25%, was the largest in any prison camp in the North and rivaled the death rate of the infamous Confederate POW camp in Andersonville, Georgia.

I find it ironic that the author uses a quotation from Willie Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* that I learned in Mrs. Grimes' 11th grade Lit class which really says it all: "The evil that men do lives after them, The good is oft interred with their bones".

This riveting story is by a native son of the North, a former lecturer and American History teacher for over 20 years at Horseheads High School in Elmira. Michael Horigan is a recognized expert on the Elmira prison camp and has the credentials to back up that statement. He served on the advisory committee to construct a camp memorial at Elmira, and his material was used in a Public Television documentary, *Helmira: 1864-1865*. Horigan, author and historian, has opened some old wounds with some new insights. He gives reasons that the camp became known as Helmira. The death rates at both Elmira and Andersonville were similar, and the worst part of it all was that "the atrocities committed by Americans against Americans" on both sides, I might add, did not have to happen. What was different about the two death camps was how each side carried out the atrocities.



The real life characters in this book would be hard pressed to have someone write a script for Hollywood that followed the actions carried out during the life of this camp, clandestine or otherwise. You will see capitalism at its worst - tickets to an observatory

were sold for citizens to view the Southern prisoners. "Where's the beef?" was a question asked at Elmira long before the Burger King ad.

Connect the dots when you finish this great book, and

Continued on page 22

jurascot@earthlink.net

The 56th Annual Grandfather Mountain Games Will Be Held July 7th-10th, 2011, Linville, NC

*Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
Celebrating 55 Years of Excellence*



Tentative event schedules for 2011

Thursday, July 7th

Picnic, Torchlight Ceremony & Sheep Herding

4:30 PM Picnic - Food concessions are available at MacRae Meadows or you can bring your own.

Scottish Entertainment - Traditional Celtic Music. Performers to be announced

Sheep Herding: Sheep Herding with Border Collies on the field.

7 PM The Bear: Assault on Grandfather - This five-mile footrace climbs 1,568 feet in elevation from the town of Linville to the summit of Grandfather mountain. Over 800 runners will start up the Old Yonahlossee Road from Linville at 7 PM, circle the Highland Games track around 7:15, and head up the Grandfather Mountain summit road.

More Sheep Herding

Torchlight Ceremony: Opening ceremony announcing each participating Clan's arrival to the Games

Friday, July 8th

7:30 AM **The Grizzly Bike Race**

9 AM **MacRae Meadows Opens:** Preliminary athletic competition, sheep herding, music/dancing exhibitions. Celtic Groves will be open and other activities will highlight the day.

Opening Ceremonies

**Highland Wrestling Clinic for children
Children's Tent and Field Activities**

Harp Workshop

Sheep Herding

History & Genealogy Studies at Clan Tents

Highland Dancing Pre-Championship

Lochaber Trump Competition in the Harp and Fiddling Tent

3:00 PM Day events completed, preparation begins for **Celtic Jam**

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games Presents:
7 - 11 PM **Celtic Music Jam Concert** tracing the evolution of Celtic Music from the ancient to the contemporary at MacRae Meadows.

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games presents
8:00 PM - 12 AM **Scottish Country Dance Gala** - Williams Gymnasium at Lees-McRae College. \$25 dancers / \$10 spectators. (Tickets sold only at the door).

Saturday, July 9th

7:00 AM **Mountain Marathon** begins in Boone, NC. Runners will arrive at Games track around 9:30 AM. Among the most strenuous marathons in the nation.

7:30 AM **MacRae Meadows Opens**

Continued on page 17

The 56th Annual Grandfather Mountain Games Will Be Held July 7th-10th, 2011, Linville, NC

Grandfather Mountain Advertisement, *continued from page 16*

Amateur Heavy Athletic Qualifying Begins Competition begins for Highland Dancing

Atlantic International Championship, piping, drumming, Scottish athletic events, track & field events, Scottish country dancing, Scottish fiddling, and Scottish harp.

Children's Highland Wrestling Competition Sheep Herding

Massed Bands on track

Opening Ceremonies

History & Genealogy Studies at Clan Tents

Children's Tent Activities

Celtic Grove Music

Highland Wrestling

Harp Competitions

Pre-Premier Highland Dance Competition

NC Provincial Gaelic Mod

Scottish Fiddling Workshop & Jam Session

7:00 PM Celtic Rock Concert at MacRae

Meadows. \$15 Adults / \$5 Children age 5-12

Sunday, July 10th

8:00 AM MacRae Meadows Opens

**Scottish Heavy Athletic Demonstration and
Clinic**

Prelude Music for Worship Service Begins

9:00 AM Scottish Worship Service Outside main gate, bring a folding chair. Includes Kirkin' of the Tartans.

Children's Border Collie Demonstration on the main field.

Celtic Grove Entertainment Begins

Parade of Tartans Guests of Honor & Distinguished Guests are introduced as all members of the sponsoring clans are invited to march in the parade behind the massed pipe bands.

Scottish Fiddling Competition

Atlantic International **Highland Dance Championship** Competition.

Competition takes place throughout the day for Scottish athletic events, sheep herding, kilted miles, children's events, Scottish country dancing, Scottish

harp, Clan Tugs-of-War. Celtic Grove entertainment continues.

History & Genealogy Studies at Clan Tents

Sheep Herding Demonstration

4:00 PM Closing Ceremonies

to order tickets, etc.
www.gmhng.org



Grandfather Mountain *General Manager's Perspective* Frank Vance

As I sit at the window of my office in the Ellice & Rosa McDonald Scottish Heritage Center in Linville, I am looking out on a wonderful spring day in the Mountains of NC. The daffodils and crocus are beginning to bloom and the grass is looking forward to its first haircut of the season. It seems like just yesterday the area was slammed with one of the worst winter storms that I have been privy to in my lifetime. Our past winter was the coldest and snowiest since 1960 as far as I can remember. I was in contact with my daughter in Massachusetts and it seems that most of the weather here up until February was similar in scope to the Northern Winter. However, our snows are now gone and they are still receiving it on a daily basis.

We want to thank those who were willing to help us with the storm damage and the continuing costs that came with it. I would especially like to thank Bob Kay of Morgan Keegan out of Richmond VA. He is one of our Chieftain patrons who stepped up and donated \$5000 to help support our local scholarship obligations.

With the storm damage we had last year we were really short on funding some of our scholarships.

For those of you who may not know, these games are a non-profit organization whose mission statement includes providing the means for local talented youth to attend institutes of higher education.

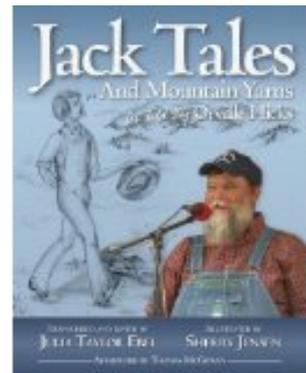
We thank Bob again, and anyone else in advance, who is willing to donate to some won-

derful young scholars who are the future of our state and country.

If you happen to be in the Washington DC area around Tartan Day you may want to help support our local Brass and Pipe band, the Blue Ridge Brass and Montreat Scottish Pipes and Drums. They will be performing several times while in the area. These venues include: April 8th at the Marine Museum at 10:30 a.m., and later that afternoon at 6:00 p.m. at Maryland Hall (tickets available online). Also they will be playing at Arlington cemetery on April 9th at approximately 10:30 a.m. (free admission) and later that afternoon at 6:00 p.m. at the Kennedy Center. Tickets will be available at the door for the Kennedy Center concert. Ed Miller will be accompanying them at the Maryland Hall and Kennedy Center performance. Don't miss this opportunity if you are in the DC area.

We also plan on having Orville Hicks, a prominent local storyteller, return to tell Jack Tales to the children of

Continued on page 19



Frank Vance, *continued from page 18*

all ages.

Julia Taylor Ebel will have her latest books and also her famous Jack Tales stories as told by Orville Hicks.

My famous first cousin, distinguished Appalachian author Gloria Houston is also going to be at the Grandfather Mountain souvenir tent signing her famous children's books including: *My Great Aunt Arizona*, *The Year of the Perfect Christmas Tree* (bestselling children's book of the 1990s), and her current release *Miss Dorothy and the Bookmobile*.

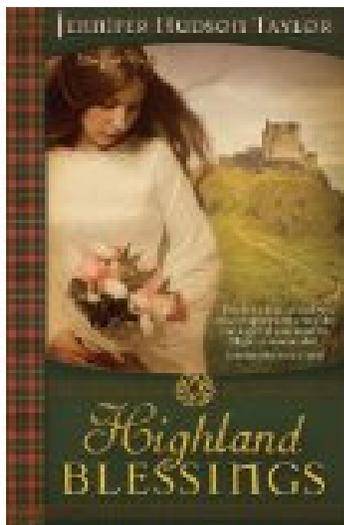
Another first cousin, Nina White McKinney, who is just beginning a career as a local artist will be signing her series of 12 hand drawn note cards entitled "Flowers of Grandfather".

We will also have several other distinguished authors including Jennifer Hudson Taylor (*Highland Blessings*) and E.A. Channon (*Ballad of a Bagpiper*).

Our program this year will feature an article by our co-founder Donald F. MacDonald about "How to Speak Appalachian". It mainly covers the use of Gaelic words that are still being used in the Appalachian mountains.

Gaelic scholar Ann Landin will be including a list of commonly used English words from Gaelic.

Another great article that we are including in the program this year by our own Levin Sudderth will cover the rivers and streams of the High Country.



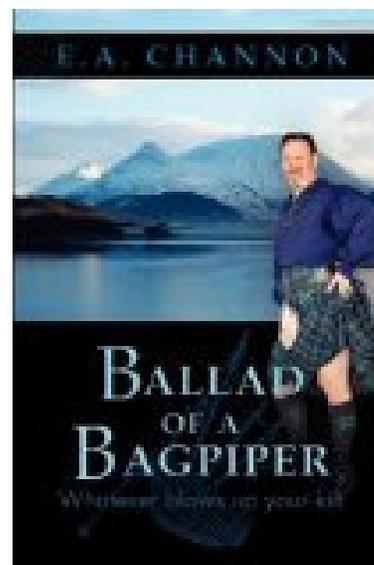
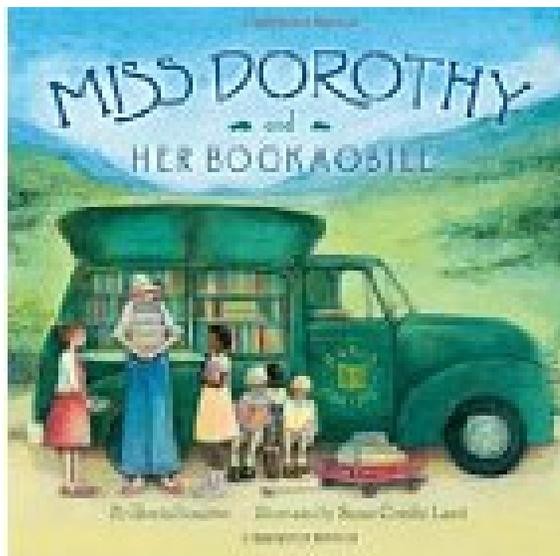
Harris Prevost also has a feature article about the history of Linville and its golf courses. Everyone should check these articles out in the 2011 souvenir program.

A special congratulation goes out to Ross M. Morrison Jr. who received the Scottish Heritage Center Service Award in Laurinburg at Saint Andrews College this year.

Congratulations to Bonnie Rideout, former fiddling judge for the GMHG and past national and U.S. champion, for receiving the Flora Macdonald Award.

The GMHG Board of Directors wants to thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at the 56th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games July 7th – 10th, 2011.

Sincerely, Frank Vance Frank Vance GMHG General Manager



You can be a part of the Gathering!
Order tickets, camping, and patron sponsorships online at
www.gmhg.org



Elliot Clan Society, USA Membership Information 2011

The Elliot Clan Society is a worldwide organization, with active branches in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States. In accordance with Scottish Clan Law, Clan membership includes all Eliots, Elliots, Elliotts, those of whose mother or grandmother was so named and their spouses. This also applies to Eliots of known Scottish descent.

If you are a person of Scottish ancestry bearing the name Elliot, Elliott or Eliott (including the spouse or descendant of such person) and wish to join the Elliot Clan Society please fill out the membership form. Those forms may be found on the "Official ECS Website" at:

w w w . e l l i o t c l a n . c o m .

For US residents, please make sure that you send your completed ECS USA membership forms to the Membership/Treasurer. Once you join the Society you will receive periodic newsletters from the ECS USA and our Parent society in Scotland. The newsletters will inform you of Scottish festivals in your area and other announcements of importance to our Clan. Membership it allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

Email: dublincollen@sbcglobal.net or write:

Patricia Tennyson Bell, Treasurer/Membership Chair

2288 Casa Grande Street

Pasadena, CA 91104

(Fortiter Et Recte)
Boldly and Rightly





clankeithusa.org

CLAN KEITH SOCIETY USA, INC. Cordially invites membership inquiries from all descendants of the Keiths and Clan Septs: Austin, Dickson, Falconer, Hackson, Harvey, Haxton, Hervey, Hurry, Keith, Kite, Lumgair, Mackeith, Marshall, Urie, Urry, etc. (many spelling variations)

Alice M. Hattenbrun, Secretary

The Clan Keith Society, USA, Inc.

119 South RD

Kensington, NH 03833

toldscot@rcn.com www.clankeithusa.org

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USA, Inc., AGM**

**June 3rd & 4th 2011 at the Glasgow Highland
Games, Glasgow, Kentucky**

*(All members encouraged to come & form a clan
voting quorum)*

Elmira, continued from page 15

you will find “the invisible hand of the Secretary of War”, Edwin Stanton, everywhere.

During the first three months of 1865 (the time it is estimated that my own grandfather arrived at Elmira), 1,202 Confederate soldiers died at Elmira. That is 40.3% of all deaths during the 369 days the POW camp existed. Clothing for the “destitute” prisoners sent north by family and friends was not allowed to be delivered to the prisoners. You’ll find that “...an unstated policy of retaliation was in place at Elmira...” and that it was carried out by the powers that be.

Smallpox ran rampant beginning in October of 1864, lasting for six months, and the smallpox hospital was a “misnomer” since it consisted only of tents where the “men who died were dragged out and left in front of the tents”. Some prisoners, unable to purchase vegetables with money sent to them by relatives, killed rats for food while others killed and ate dogs and cats. Those caught eating a dog were forced, in all kinds of weather, to wear a “barrel shirt” with a sign proclaiming, “I eat a dog” or “Dog Eater”. Probably the most denigrating sign was one that read, “I stole my mess-mate’s rations”.

These are some of the many conditions that Michael Horigan has brought to our attention. They beg to ask the great question, “Who was responsible for this state of things?” which happens to be the title of Chapter 8. I will not answer that question for you.

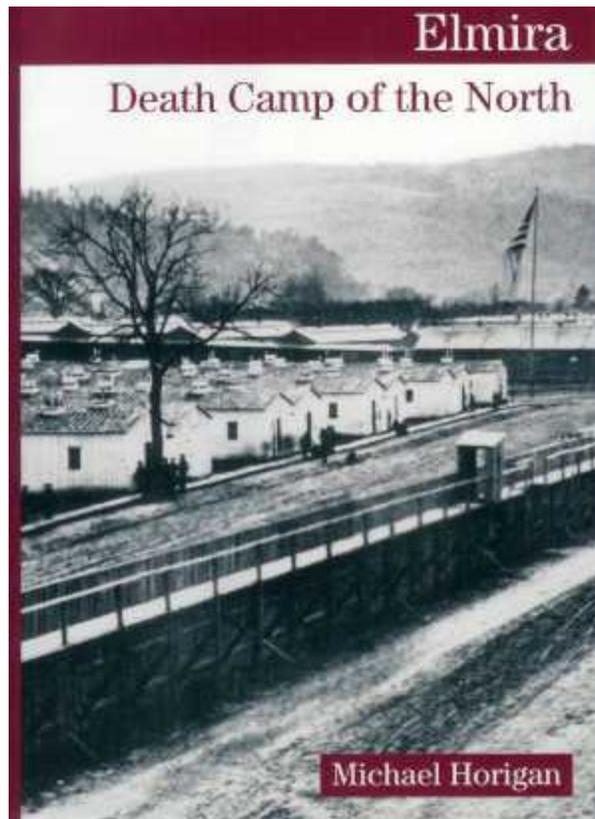
Suffice it to say that the death rate at Elmira was eight per day for the 369 days the camp was in existence. The author tells us that “almost all of Elmira’s survivors agree that the villain” was ...

Sharing this book has been the most personal journey I have taken with you since beginning my book review column nearly four years ago. I never knew my Grandfather, Pvt. John W. Shaw, CSA. He died in 1911; I was born in 1938 to his son, Charles Bascombe. I never recall my father talking about

Grandfather’s time at Elmira. I was too young to be aware of Pvt. Shaw’s record, but if he was alive today, I’d sure like to know his answer to the above question. Since I was 14 when my father died in 1953, I never knew him man to man. If I had, however, I would have asked him what his father had to say about Elmira.

I do have a copy of the muster roll from the North Carolina Archives where Grandfather Shaw made his mark when he signed on to fight for the South. The ten children of Charlie and Mattie Shaw are lucky our Grandfather survived Fort Fisher where 25% of the soldiers fell defending the fort

and another 24.3% died as prisoners at Elmira. But, in conclusion, I’ll tell you this - I’m proud that John Washington Shaw was not a slave owner, and I’m just as proud he fought for what he believed, whatever it was he believed. After all, fighting for our beliefs is one reason we are a great nation today! (8-26-03)



Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale .

It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands.

With thanks to my friend, Susan Cromarty from Australia. This is from the “Sunday Bloopers”series... fun!

visit to the Dublin Cathedral. But an essay by Dean Swift or someone like him would not tell us what a Scotch-Irish settler thought about his new home, even if the real author pretended to be such a settler.

Too many small details ring true for this letter to be the work of a newspaper essayist in Virginia or an editor in Dublin. I'm convinced James Murray was a real person, anxious to bring his family to the new land that he found so full of promise. James Murray wrote that he had found employment as clerk of the Presbyterian congregation at "York Meeting House," now First Presbyterian Church in New York City, and as a schoolmaster there. He urged his old pastor and other friends to write him in care of "Mr. John Pemberton, Minister of the Gospel in New-York." But in 1737 there was no Presbyterian minister named *John Pemberton* in New York or elsewhere in the Colonies. Was the letter a hoax? No, because the Rev. *Ebenezer Pemberton* served the First Presbyterian Church in New York in 1737. A careless typesetter in Ireland might have read Eben as John.



There are other clues that this is a real letter. Murray suggested he might be coming home before long as he had made other contacts in New York. An attorney in the city who traded to Ireland offered to send him with a cargo as his agent. "I think to gang there as Factor for a Gentleman of this City of York, he is my Relation by my Father, he is Returney of the Law here." He was not a close relative, not an uncle, but just "a Relation by my Father." There were only seven lawyers in New York City in 1737, three were Scots and one came from Ireland. The Irish-born attorney was Joseph Murray. He was the most-successful and wealthiest member of the New York bar and had various other business interests, just the sort of "Relation" a newly-arrived immigrant would want to claim. Joseph was the son of Thomas Murray of Queen's County, Ireland, but could well have been related to Murrays in County Armagh.

James Murray was particularly interested in getting word to his brother-in-law to come to New York with his family. "Desire James Gibson to sell aw he has and come, and I weel help him too." He asked Reverend Boyd "to send this Letter to James Broon, of Drumern, and he kens my Brether James Gibson, and he weel gie him this Letter." There is no townland anywhere in Ireland called "Drumern," but there is a

Drumarn, a townland of 81 acres in the Parish of Clonfeacle, Co. Armagh. It lies just east of Aughnacloy and west of the cathedral town of Armagh. If James Brown lived at Drumarn, it would be easy for the minister to get a letter to him. The nearness of Armagh to Murray's friends and relations makes it clear why he used it to estimate the size of New York: "this York is as big as twa of Armagh."

What did Murray write about his American experience to encourage others to follow him to New York? First of all, there were job opportunities. Educated young men, like Reverend Baptist Boyd's sons, could earn a

hundred pounds a year teaching a Latin school. Murray himself had twenty pounds a year as clerk of the Presbyterian church. "Trades are aw gud here, a Wabster gets 12 Pence a Year, a Labourer gets 4 Shillings and 6 Pence a Day, a Lass gets 4 Shillings and 6 Pence a Week for spinning on the wee Wheel, a Carpenter gets 6 Shillings a Day, and a Tailor gets 20 Shillings for making a Suit of Cleaths." He urged any

tradesmen who came to bring their tools with them and anyone crossing the ocean needed to be well-supplied. "Now I beg of ye aw to come our here, and bring our wee ye aw the Cleaths ye can of every Sort, beth o' Linen and Woollen, and Guns, and Pooder, and Shot, and aw Sorts of Weers that is made of Iron and Steel, and aw Trades-men that comes here, let them bring their Tools wee them, and Farmers their Plough Erons."

Murray himself aimed at a life in town, as clerk and school teacher now, perhaps as a merchant later, but he promised farmers would find good land in America. "this is a bonny Country, and aw Things grow here that ever I did see grow in Ereland." He added that "Rye grows here, and Oats, and Wheet, and Winter Barley, and Summer Barley; Buck Wheet grows here, na every Thing grows here." He urged would-be emigrants to "fetch aw Sorts of garden seeds, Parsneps, Onions, and Carrots; and Potatoes grows here very big, red and white beth." They should "fetch a Spade, wee a Hoe made like a stubbing Ax, for ye may clear as muckle Grund for to plant Indian Corn, in ane Month, as will maintain Ten Folk for a Year."

Because there's only a little more...and because there just isn't any more space in this section, you will find the conclusion of this article in Section A, page 12.

Understanding Pipe Band Competition: The Basics



Yes, we did publish this article in the last issue of *BNFT*. After publication, Camden realized the rules had changed for Grade IV in the time between when he wrote the article and now. So, here is a corrected and edited version of the last article with all the rules shiny and new. **Big, huge, gigantic congratulations are in order for Camden - please see following page at the bottom!**

Camden Simon

When one attends a highland games, he can not leave without the bands having influenced his experience one way or another.

He might casually listen to the music as it fades in and out in the background or stop and watch the events going.

When watching the competition it is not always clear to the uninitiated. Who are the people walking around the circle and what are they doing? Is there any difference between the bands? What makes up the seemingly endless requirements?

These competitions seem complex, but in reality are very logical and understandable to even those who do not play instruments.

The pipe bands have a set of requirements that govern the kinds of music they can play in competition as determined by their grade level.

Grade V is required to play a selection of quick marches while grade IV prepares a medley. The medley can consist of any kind of music as long as the total performance is between 3 and 5 minutes. Grades III through I have two different sets they must prepare, a medley with same requirements and a second set consisting of one March, Strathspey, and Reel, or MSR. They will only play one of the sets at any given competition, but all in the same grade will play the same set type. The time requirement is strictly enforced. If any band plays a set that is short or long, by even one second, they are automatically disqualified.

The piping competition is often performed

on the main field of the games in order that it may serve as entertainment for the crowds. The competition area is made of two circles, one inside of the other. The inner circle is a guide for the pipe band to form up in and play their music. The outer circle is for the judges.

The judges are allowed to move all around the outer circle to listen, but are never allowed to move inside of it.

When the band comes onto the field they approach a line that is drawn about ten feet from the outer circle and stop. At this point the competition begins.

For the lower grades, IV and V, they do not march in playing, but begin their set after they have formed a circle. The scoring begins when they start the drum rolls.

For grade III, and higher, the drums will start their rolls at the line and the band will play while marching into the circle. Thus, scoring begins as soon as they start.

This then leads into explaining the roles of the officials involved.

The first person one will see is the steward, who ensures that the competitions run smoothly. This done by doing everything from ensuring that the judges have everything they need to making sure the next band to play is ready.

Then comes the role of the judges. There are four to five judges now used to judge all official pipe and drum competitions.

Continued on page 25

Camden Simon, *continued from page 24* _____

In the Eastern US they are tested on their knowledge and certified by the Eastern United States Pipe Band Association, or EUSPBA.

The EUSPBA is the governing organization that sets the rules and manages the competition circuit in it's area. There will be either two or three piping judges; it is the games discretion. They are graded based on things such as how well the pipers manage to play in unison, clarity of the execution, smoothness of tempo changes, and note changes.

In addition they judge on the expression, or how musical it sounded to them.

Finally they score on how well the bagpipes were tuned throughout the performance.

One of the two remaining judges is the ensemble judge. This judge scores on the overall sound of the band. This can consist of things such as how well the pipers played with the drummers, and were the pipes and drums tuned in pitch and volume to blend well.

While a majority of people are not aware that you can tune drums, an out of tune drum is very noticeable.

Finally, they grade on the quality of the music arrangement itself.

This leads to the final judge, the drumming judge. He judges all the drum corps, which consist of the side, which is often referred to as a snare, tenor, and bass drums. He judges on their technique and sound. Secondly, they are judged on their ability to achieve expression of rhythm and tempo.

In general, he grades them based on their quality and variety; after all, nobody likes monotonous tapping!

At the end of the performances it is time to determine who is the winner based on the judges scores. The judges award all bands a placing based on their assessment. Then all the placings from the judges are added together and the lowest overall score wins.

If there is a tie it is broken by who received a higher score from the ensemble judge.

Hopefully this has helped to clarify what exactly is going in that closed circle they call the pipe band competitions. With this insight maybe it will be less confusing and easier to follow what is going on and to see what the judges are looking for. The next time someone in the crowd asks what is the man with clipboard walking around the circle up to, you can give them an answer and help to take the mystery out of the competition!



Camden Simon served as the Co-Director of Piping and Drumming at the Gatlinburg, TN games for five years before becoming the President of the Gatlinburg Games. He has been a member of the Knoxville Pipes and Drums, The 78th Fraser Highlanders Montreal and The City of Chattanooga Pipe Band. He is currently the Piper-in-Residence for Erskine College and Erskine Seminary.

Camden just passed his written and oral examination for ordination in the Reformed Episcopal Church. Camden holds his Masters of Divinity from Erskine Seminary and is studying for his Masters of Theology

Flowers of the Forest

Tom Lane Jones, June 8 1927-January 26, 2011. Clan Buchanan has recently lost one of its most loyal and dedicated members. Thomas Lane Jones passed away at Hospice Solace Car, near his home in Fletcher, North Carolina on January 27 of this year.

Tom served as CBSI Treasurer for almost 10 years and during that time was part of the group responsible for The Buchanan Banner as we know it today. His accounting skills were invaluable in establishing procedures for the first expanded budget as CBSI began its amazing growth spurt in 1992.

Tom is survived by his faithful and loving wife, Kay, and two sons, one daughter, one stepson, five

grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



William "Bill" Robenalt died July 6, 2010 in Santa Cruz, California, of a heart attack. People attending various games may remember Bill as "Erica's father" at the Highland Dance venue. Erica was a dance competitor from the time she was five years old. She eventually obtained "Premier" status and trained and passed the examination to become an instructor.

Gilbert Giles, Sr., died December 12, 2010. He was Clan Buchanan Society, International Regent for the State of Rhode Island. He was the beloved husband of the late Cora E. Shepard Giles.

Continued on page 27



Please say a prayer for these Marines and their families today..

We are asking everyone to say a prayer for "Darkhorse" 3rd Battalion 5th Marines and their families. They are fighting it out in Afghanistan & they have lost 9 marines in 4 days.

God Bless America and God Bless the United States Marine Corps... Semper Fi, Often Tested, Always Faithful, Brothers Forever.

Justin Allen, 23, Brett Linley, 29, Matthew Weikert, 29, Justus Bartett, 27, Dave Santos, 21, Chase Stanley, 21, Jesse Reed, 26, Matthew Johnson, 21, Zachary Fisher, 24, Brandon King, 23, Christopher Goeke, 23, Sheldon Tate, 27,

All are Marines that gave their lives for our country and for you and me.

Flowers of the Forest, *continued from page 26*

Gilbert was born in Providence, Rhode Island and was a self-employed contractor and a US Navy Submarine Service Korean Conflict veteran.

He is survived by his children; Lizabeth F. Giles-Bowe and her husband, James, of Florida and Gilbert B. Giles, Jr., and his wife, Valerie of Warwick, Rhode Island.

He was the grandfather of Christopher and Caleb and the brother of Marion Marshall, Betty McClellent and the late Robert Giles.

Gilbert was buried in the Rhode Island Veterans Cemetery with full military honors.

Joseph Clifton Morris, 77, died on Tuesday, December 7, 2010 at Covenant Hospice Center following a lengthy illness. He was born in New York on June 26, 1933 to James Clifton and Helen Flewelling Morris and grew up in North Carolina.

He attended Elton University where he graduated with a commission in the United States Marine Corps.

As a Marine helicopter instructor, he had the pleasure of teaching astronauts Gordon Cooper and Ed White at Ellyson Field in Pensacola.

He remained a pilot throughout his tenure with the Marines and flew C-130s in Viet Nam. He finished his career with the Naval Intelligence Service, serving in Cheney Point, Panama Canal Zone; Madrid and Rota, Spain and Pensacola.

He participated with The McGuire's Bagpipe Band, the Marine Aviators, Clan Buchanan Society, International and the North Carolina Tarheels.

He was a charter member and Elder of Northminister Presbyterian Church.

He was preceded in death by his brother, James Charles Morris, and most recently by his eldest Son, Joseph Clifton Morris, Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Helen Craven Morris; son, David Charles Morris, sister, Janice Morris Cornell and grandson, Joshua Charles Morris.

Burial was at Barrancas National Cemetery.

Ann McMunn Watson, age 75, passed away October 12 at United Hospital Center in Clarksburg, West Virginia, following an extended illness. She was born September 16, 1935 in Clarksburg, West Virginia to the late Eleanor and Charles McMunn.

A West Virginia University cum laude graduate, she received a journalism degree and served as president of Pi Beta Phi Sorority.

Ann loved sheepdogs and was a breeder of Shetland sheepdogs, showing many champions in breed, obedience, agility and tracking.

She served as past president of the Clarksburg Kennel Club and was national chairperson of the publication for the American Shetland Sheepdog Association.

She was founder and chairperson of the Bridgeport Scottish Festival and Celtic Games for the last nine years.

Ann taught bagpiping at the YWCA in Fairmont. She played the pipes for many occasions and played with the St. Andrews Pipe Band.

She was past president of Clarksburg League for Service, co-chairperson of the United Hospital Center Holly Ball and the former clerk of the session of the First Presbyterian Church of Clarksburg.

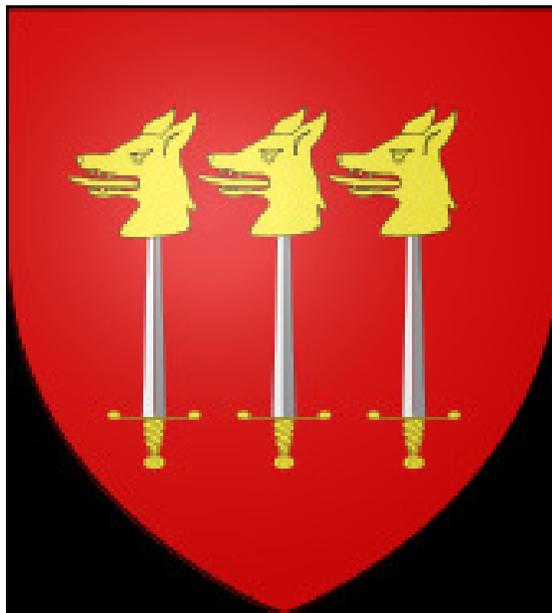
She is survived by her husband of 54 years, Prentiss R. Watson, Jr., daughter, Dee Watson and her husband, Stan Sanford, and daughter Jesse, of Dublin, Ohio. She is also survived by her son, Eric D. Watson of Bridgeport, West Virginia and a brother, C. David McMunn and his wife, Sandy, of Clarksburg.



Clan Skene Association, Inc.

The Clan Skene Association, Inc., invites membership from SKENE and septs CARISON, CARNEY/CARNIE, CURREHILL, DYAS, DYCE, DYER, HALL, HALYARD/HALLYARD, MacGAILLARD, RENNIE & SKAINS.

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Glasgow Highland Games



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Thursday, June 2nd
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For complete Glasgow Highland Games
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ghg@glasgow-ky.com

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Stone Toss (Clachneart)
Weight Toss
Sheaf Toss
Weight Throw
Hammer Throw
Masters,
Amateur &
Highland Wrestling

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Clan Fraser Society of NA***

***The 2011 Honored Society
is the St. Andrew's Society
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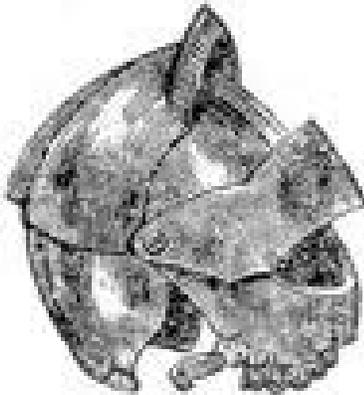


Absolutely No Pets - No Refunds - No Provisions available for Pets



The Kentucky Tourism Council has selected the
Glasgow Highland Games as a "Top Ten" Festival Event for the summer.

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cbsimmons@earthlink.net

Clan MacCord Society

Invites for membership all spelling variations and descendants of McCord (a)(e)(y). Also
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and Flynn, McFettridge and Kane.



Contact **Ronald John McCord,**

President/Chief

1805 Mews Drive

Wilmington, NC 28405

Ph. 919-256-3798 or rmccord@ec.rr.com



House of Lumsden Association



Terry L. Mosley,

North Carolina

Commissioner

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