

Vol. 10 No. 12 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* May 2016 Section A

## Maybe this time? Edinburgh Zoo's giant panda Tian Tian artificially inseminated AGAIN

The zoo is open but the panda enclosure will remain closed to visitors until 5 May.

Panda reproduction is notoriously difficult, partly due to the very short breeding window with ovulation occurring only once a year.

Staff had hoped Tian Tian would mate naturally with the zoo's male giant panda Yang Guang but when this did not happen, a decision was taken to artificially inseminate her using Yang Guang's sperm.

Colleagues from the China Conservation and Research Centre for the Giant Panda (CCRCGP), the Leibnitz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research (IZW) and Roslin Embryology assisted the zoo's staff during the procedure.

Iain Valentine, director of giant pandas for The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland, said it would be some time before they knew if Tian Tian had conceived.

Writing in his blog, he said: "We continue to believe that it's important biologically for Tian Tian, a female in her prime, to breed and reproduce and add to a vital ex-situ population outside of China.

"If we can successfully assist Tian Tian to carry



to full term, we have no doubt that she'll be an excellent mother and both our male and female's genetics will be preserved in future giant panda generations."

The two giant pandas arrived in Scotland in December 2011 and are being rented by Edinburgh Zoo from the Chinese government for a decade for an annual fee of about £600,000.

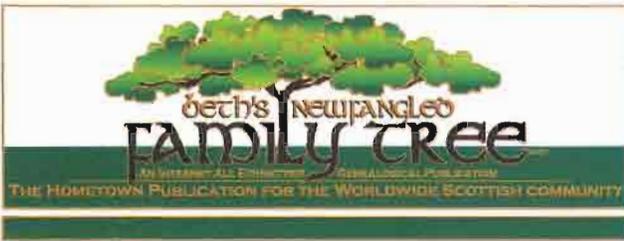
Tian Tian had previously given birth to twins in China but all attempts to produce a cub at Edinburgh Zoo have failed.

Read more at <http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/maybe-time-edinburgh-zoo-giant-7880925#F54scevUIPkyY007.99>



May is Bicycle Month!





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anytime to:  
bethscribble@aol.com**

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You don't have to do  
**ANYTHING**  
to read  
*Beth's Newfangled  
Family Tree!*

*Just go to:  
[www.electricscotland.com/bnft](http://www.electricscotland.com/bnft)*

*Then...download and  
read or print as you wish.  
New issue is "up"  
about the 1st of each month*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Everybody has fun at the Glasgow Games!*

**June 3-5, 2016**



# *A letter from your editor...* More ideas on how to keep your Clan mem- bers being members...



Just being released from a stay of too many days in the hospital, with days and days to think...and long enough to make me late for the first time ever with *BNFT*, I did have time to think about how we can all keep our Clansmen and Clanswomen for a very long time..

The brand new *Clan Wallace Guardian* had a fine idea this time. (see below) They have figured out ways for existing members to be recognized and awarded new status within their group!

I have been discussing this with a relatively new Scottish friend of mine...and we have come up with a few things that DO sound sort of interesting.

There are many sites on the Internet these days where you can send greeting cards to your members for any occasion, you might choose, be it birthday,

wedding anniversary or anniversary of joining your clan. Clan Henderson even awards nice lapel pins for 5th, 10th, 15th, 20th and 25th clan anniversaries. These greeting sites rate from free...to about \$15 per year - with unlimited use. (ZERO Postage, too!)

I don't know anyone who does not enjoy getting a nice card.

There is a program which makes it easy to be in touch with your members called Constant Contact. This is an inexpensive program which will save you LOTS of time.

Anything you can think of to do that adds a personal touch with your members is just great.

Has anyone thought about organizing "Outlander Evenings" with their clans folks - where groups might gather in your area - maybe bringing a covered dish - and watching that weeks' installment together? You could move the party every week! What fun.

Nothing is too much trouble to do when it makes members enjoy their association with your Clan organization.

Aye, beth

## **FÀILTE !**

On behalf of Ian Francis Wallace of that Ilk, 35th Chief of Clan Wallace; Acting Chief Andrew R. Wallace, Younger of that Ilk; and the President and the Board of Directors, we welcome the twelve individuals listed below to their new status within the Clan Wallace Society.

### **Council Membership**

Scott A. Wallace, Jacksonville, FL

### **Life Membership**

Elizabeth Wallace Fleming, Kodiak, AK

### **Annual Membership**

John Patrick White, Bayfield, CO

Elizabeth Gabriel, Winter Haven, FL

Sheri Lea Wallace, Duncanville TX

Lynn Wulkopf Bohler, Florissant, MO

Janalee Scott, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL

Phil Wallace, Manassas, VA

Jean Wood Shannon, Starke, FL

Joyce Keasling Rhodes, Saint Johns, FL

Quinton Montuori, Jacksonville, FL

Thomas Wallace, Green Cove Springs, FL

## *Special instructions for this issue only:*

*On page 14 (after the Clan Gregor ad) you will find another installment of Pete and Wendy Hylton's "Further Adventures in Scotland". This feature will continue until the end of the section. There will be no page numbers. Just scroll down. The article is eight pages long. This is simply to save time so you can get your issue soonest. (See above)*

# Glasgow Highland Games

Glasgow, Kentucky

2016 Games set for  
Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>



**Winners of the 3 (or more) Generations Award** in red shirts top and bottom right. Most deservedly, Clan MacNicol won this award for bringing FIVE generations to our games. They are showing the numbers of years they have attended Glasgow Highland Games. We hope their smiles mean they will be with us for many more years to come. **Bring your own Three Generations to the Glasgow Highland Games!**

2016 Honored Society, **Highland Rim Scottish Society** from Tullahoma, Tennessee.  
2016 Honored Scottish Clan, **Clan MacNicol Society**



**The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has a service 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. Visit: <http://www.transportation.ky.gov>

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



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

# The Legal System in Scotland

## STRANGE SCOTTISH LAWS

With thanks to the *St. Andrew Cross*, from the SAS of Tallahassee, Florida.  
Written by St. Andrew Society Member **Judge Bruce McKibben**

Scots Law is one of the three recognizable branches of law in the United Kingdom, the others being Northern Ireland law and English law. Scots Law has, historically been very different from the others, but is morphing into a more traditional branch. However, having said that, there are still some Scottish laws that bear discussing, if only for their “unique” provisions. Here are a few:



In Scotland, it is illegal for a boy under the age of 10 to see a naked mannequin. Can't help but wonder who would be charged with the crime: the boy, his parents or the mannequin.

If a dead whale is found on the Scottish coast, the head immediately becomes the property of the King, and the tail becomes the property of the Queen. (The Queen can add this treasure to her ownership of any mute swans living in open water, another weird law.)

It is legal in York to kill a Scot inside the ancient city walls if the Scot is carrying a bow and arrow. Be sure to check your luggage carefully if visiting that city, although I don't think the law applies to American “Scots.”

And in Carlisle, any Scot found wandering around may be whipped or jailed. Maybe they just presume the Scot will have been drinking too much and needs a little punishment.

In Scotland, it is illegal to be drunk while you are



in charge of a cow. And if you've seen those large wooly beasts, you can understand why.

In Scotland, the law obliges every citizen to allow whoever knocks on their door to use the toilet. Now, I wish we had known that before our last trip; would have saved many an anxious moment looking for a place.

A weird procedural law in Scotland can be found in criminal trials. Besides the verdicts of guilty or not guilty, a jury can also return a verdict of “not proven.” I imagine that comes about when they wished the government had a better case against the defendant, but even if they couldn't find him/her guilty, at least they could express their dislike of the person.

There you have it. But before thinking the Scots are just certifiably crazy when it comes to their laws, remember that there are similar kinds of legal precepts in the States. For example, there is a town in Kansas that has made it illegal to throw knives at men wearing striped suits or shirts.

Hmm. Makes you wonder what in the world was going on to incite that law.

So, there are a few things to keep in mind on your next visit. Stay tuned for more fun cases from Scots Law.



# HOPE VERE HERITAGE TOURS



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YOUR HERITAGE

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Baron of Bannockburn*

For detailed itineraries, contact Martha Hartzog, U.S. Representative  
at [m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:m.hartzog@mail.utexas.edu)  
or Hope Vere Anderson at [hopeanderson@btinternet.com](mailto:hopeanderson@btinternet.com)

## "THE JOURNEY OF THE SCOTS IRISH"

July 12-23, 2016 • 12 days •

\$5,475 double occupancy (airfare not included)

single supplement \$1250

(airfare not included)

## "MY HEART'S IN THE HIGHLANDS"

18th c. Scotland & The Outlander Story

September 15-24, 2016 • 10 days

\$4,695, double occupancy (airfare not included)

(Single supplement \$1,250)



Hope Vere Heritage Tours: [www.hopevereheritagetours.com](http://www.hopevereheritagetours.com)

# Clan Sutherland “Best Clan Tent” at the 2016 St. Augustine (FL) Celtic Music and Heritage Festival



*Clan Coordinator for the St. Augustine, Florida, Celtic Music and Heritage Festival, Roger Smith presents Clan Sutherland with our trophy for Best Clan Tent in St. Augustine. Left to right: Doris Pritchett, Carolyn Topp, Howard Topp, Roger Smith, and Alice Sutherland*

## 2016 CSSNA AGM set for GMHG

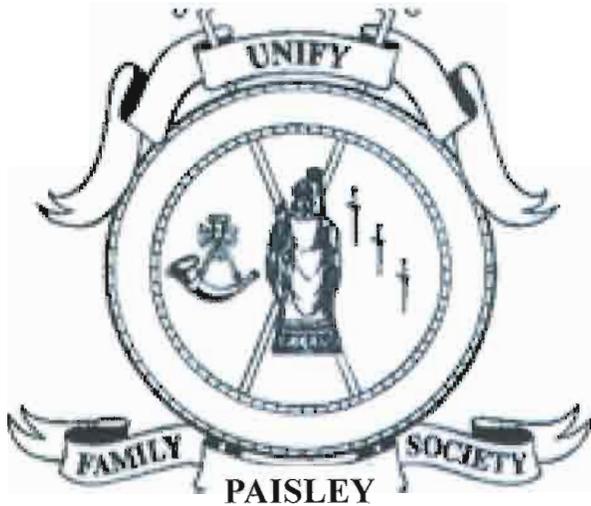
This year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of Clan Sutherland Society of North America. In 1976 a group of people gathered during the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and discussed the possibility of forming our society in order to promote our Scottish heritage and family. We are looking forward to celebrating this achievement by conducting our Annual General Meeting at Grandfather once again and hope many of you can attend.

This year's Clan Sutherland Society of North

America Annual General Meeting will be held at 1:00 pm in the Chiefs tent during the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday, July 9th. These games will be held at MacRae Meadows on Grandfather Mountain, located in Linville, North Carolina. You can visit the games website at [www.gmhg.org](http://www.gmhg.org) for more information such as ticket purchases, schedules, lodging and directions.

The AGM host hotel will be the Best Western

*Continued on page 9*



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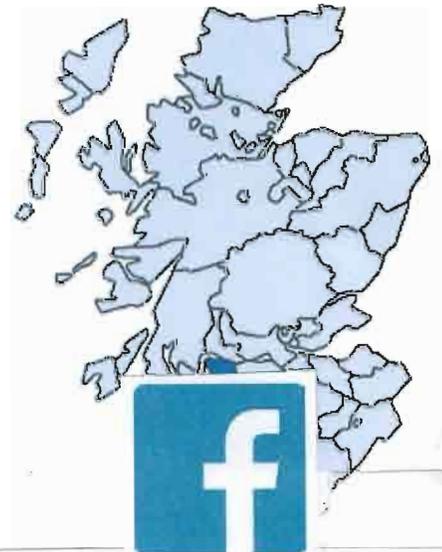


The Chiefly Arms of Paisley of Westerlea

The Paisleys are a family of considerable antiquity, having been associated with Lochwinnoch and Paisley (parts of what later became Renfrewshire), with Cunningham and Kyle (North Ayrshire), Innerwick (East Lothian) and Roxburghshire, since the time of William I King of Scots 1165 - 1214.

William I Paisley (died ante 28 September 1171) and William II Paisley (killed in battle ante 1218) were prominent in the following of the first three hereditary stewards of Scotland, while William II Paisley is also noticed attending the itinerant court of the King of Scots during 1179 - 95.

Separate and quite distinct branches of the family had already developed at Lochwinnoch and Paisley and in the Roxburgshire barony of Hawick before the end of King David Bruce's reign in 1371 and the beginnings of others are found in records for Edinburgh and the three Lothians from 1389 onwards and at Dunrod near Borge (Kirkcudbrightshire) in still Gaelic speaking Galloway from 1585.



Duncan W. Paisley of Westerlea, Chieftain of the Paisley Family

**WOW!** NC's Triad Games, MD's Fairfield, Charleston, SC and Richmond, VA! The Paisley Family Society was busy in 2015. Check our webpage [www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk](http://www.paisleyfamilysociety.org.uk) to see what we're up to in 2016. Contact Martha Brown at: [mbrown2205@aol.com](mailto:mbrown2205@aol.com). Paisley DNA project: [dlangsto@yahoo.com](mailto:dlangsto@yahoo.com)



AGM & Spring Gathering 2015 at Ardtalla, Scotland



*Clan Sutherland Chief, Lady Elizabeth, The Countess of Sutherland, front row and center. Attending Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linville, North Carolina 1979*

**CSSNA, continued from page 7**

plus Mountain Lodge at 1615 Tynecastle Hwy, Banner Elk, NC 28604. We have a block of rooms reserved from July 7-10 with a group rate of \$81-\$152 per night depending on weeknight or weekend stay. Rooms can be reserved by calling the hotel directly at 828-898-4571 and specify the group rate for "Clan Sutherland".

**THE DEADLINE FOR THE GROUP RATE IS JUNE 7, AFTER THAT FULL RATES APPLY**

The CSSNAAGM dinner will be held Saturday night July 9th at the Best Western banquet facility "Beech Room". We will start the evening with a meet and greet at 6:30pm followed by dinner service at 7:00pm.

The Dinner Buffet includes:

- Mixed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings
- Roast Top Sirloin of Beef, Carved to Order
- Horseradish Sauce, Natural au Jus
- Roast Chicken with Drambuie Sauce
- Colcannon
- Dundee Marmalade Glazed Carrots
- Soda Bread with Whipped Butter
- Yeast Rolls

Dessert: Gingerbread with Lemon Curd

Beverages: Iced Tea and Coffee

Cost for dinner will be Adults \$32, Children ages 7-10 \$20, ages 6 and under \$14.00 all inclusive of tax and service charge.

Please make checks payable to "Clan Sutherland Society" and send before June, 10th to Bill Sutherland, 12507 Kane Alexander Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078. For questions or more information please call 704-957-3609 or email <mrbillm5@carolina.rr.com>.

**The Isle of Skye featured in new John Pendleton novel**

Are you interested in the beautiful Scottish Isle of Skye? And do you like a good read? Then a new novel by author John Pendleton, entitled *Ill Winds*, may be just what you are looking for.

*Ill Winds* is a tale of lust and infidelity, with most of the action taking place on Skye. Although the characters and some of the locations are fictional the novel captures the essential character of the island.

The story is a contemporary one, with a bitter feud over a wind farm development suggesting parallels with barbaric clan battles of the past. It also takes a look at second sight, that mysterious and unwelcome gift claimed to afflict some Highlanders.

The tale revolves around a happily married and creative English couple, who move to Skye

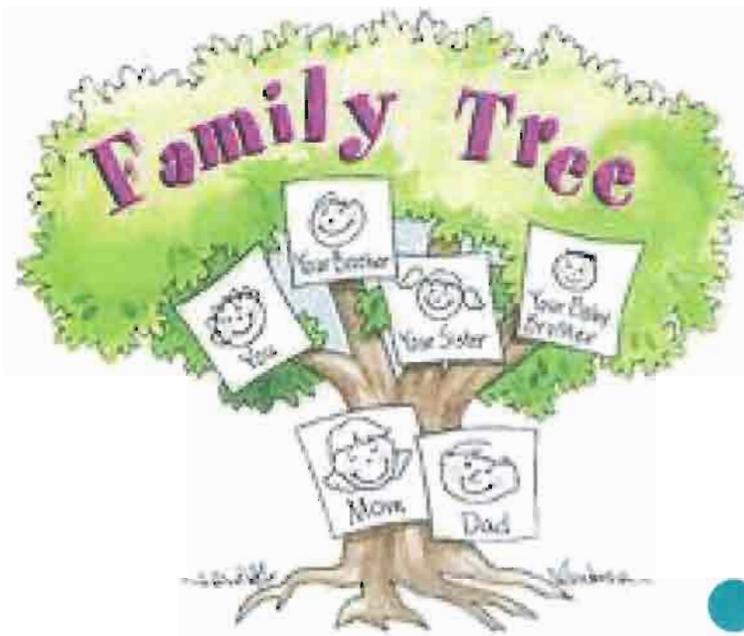
*Continued on page 11*

**It's "UP" now!**

**The brand new Clan Davidson website!**

Same URL, new website!

**www.clandavidsonusa.com**



# Genealogy Programs

*at the  
Fort Myers, Florida  
Regional Library*

**grits**  
Genealogical Research in the South

Genealogical Research in the Southern States:

Research, Resources and Repositories

Speaker, Bryan L. Mulcahy, Reference Librarian,  
Fort Myers Regional Library.

Saturday, May 7, 2016 from 9:30 AM until 12:15 PM,  
South Building, 1651 Lee Street., Meeting Rooms A & H.

This seminar will cover the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

The identities of the east coast ports of immigration, as well as the important migration trails used by the settlers.

In addition to identifying online resources, discussion will focus on utilizing the major research repositories in this region.

Programs are FREE and open to the public. Advance Registration is required.

Call 239-479-4636 Call Bryan Mulcahy at 239-533-4626 Email [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com)

## House of Boyd at Greenville, SC 2015



**John Pendleton**, *continued from page 9*

to fulfil their pipe dream of a better life.

They become enmeshed in the dispute over the wind farm and met a rich assortment of local characters – a mixture of the funny, the devoutly Christian and the dangerously violent. And their world is soon turned upside down....

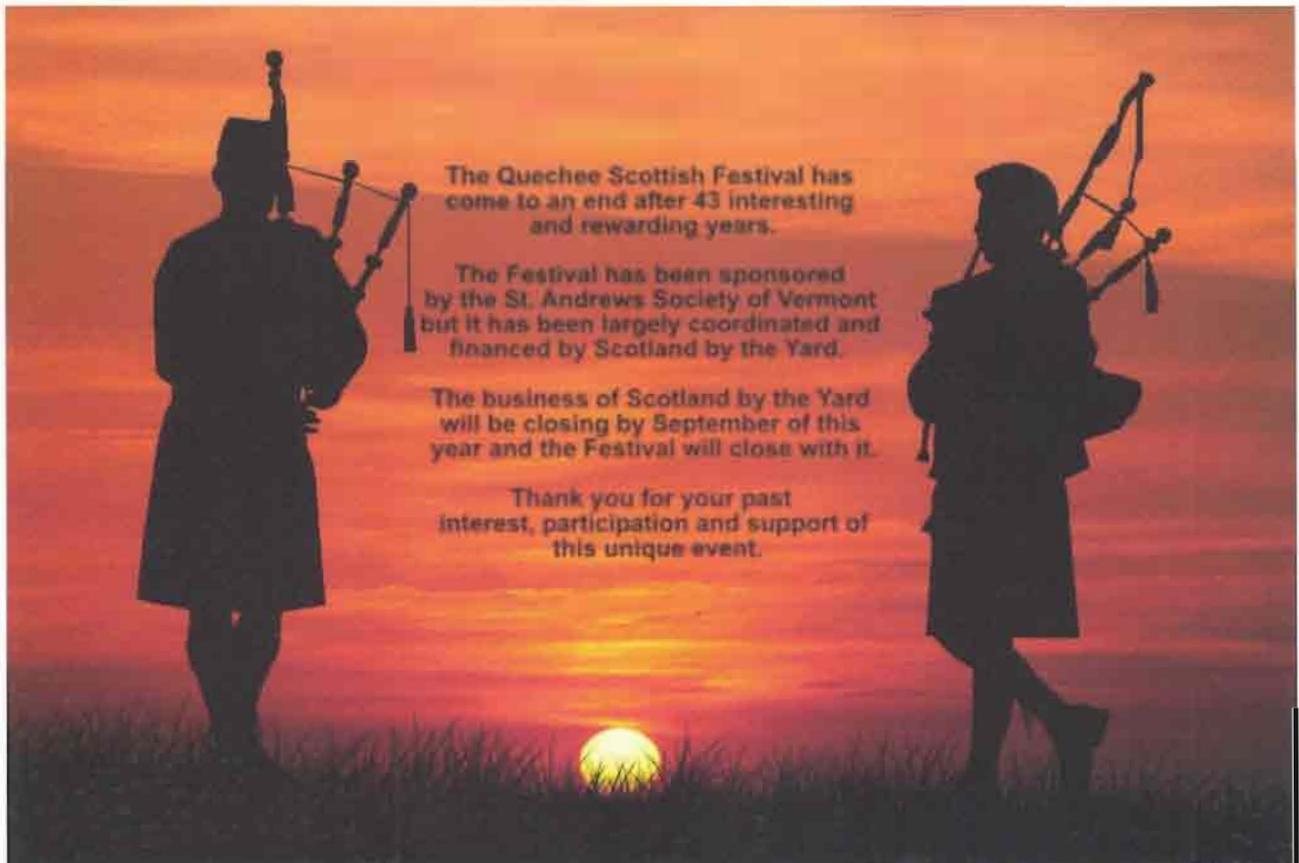
*Ill Winds* by John Pendleton is available in paperback from Amazon Books, price £7.99, or on Amazon Kindle, price £1.99.

## 40th Annual Savannah Scottish Games



Entertainment provided by The Accomplices, Stewart & Winfield, and The Celtic Consortium

Tickets \$10 at the gate Kids 10 & under FREE.



# SCOTTISH HERITAGE USA, INC.

## ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR DANCE AND PIPING SCHOLARSHIPS

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Applications are currently being considered for **one week** scholarships to *The School of Scottish Arts* (for dance) in Minneapolis, North Carolina and the *North American Academy of Piping and Drumming* in Valle Crucis, North Carolina.

Applicants for the Scottish Heritage **one week** scholarships must submit a letter of application by May 20, 2016 to:

**Scottish Heritage USA, Inc.**, PO Box 457, Pinehurst, North Carolina 28370.

The letter of application must include the following:

- EUSPBA # for piping and drumming (*if you have one*)
- FUSTA # for dance (*if you have one*)
- Applicant's name, address, contact phone number, email address (*if available*) and age
- Please indicate student's level of training and (*for piping/drumming*) instrument
- Brief essay explaining why applicant is applying for this scholarship (*no more than one printed page and must be written by applicant*)
- If the applicant is under 18, the application letter must be co-signed by parent or guardian
- Applicant's letter must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from an accredited instructor

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE IS MAY 15, 2016 – (NO EXCEPTIONS)**

*The School of Scottish Arts* is held at the Candlestick Retreat and Enrichment Center in Minneapolis, NC on Hwy 19E which is 8 miles from Newland, and 15 miles from MacRae Meadows, site of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

Built in 1932, the Minneapolis school building has been transformed into the Candlestick Retreat & Enrichment Center, a 72-bed facility. The center has added new conveniences but kept the flavor of the original hardwood floors and old school feel. Available are a full commercial kitchen and dining area, dorm rooms, updated bathrooms, exercise room and a full size gymnasium which is perfect for dance classes. There is also a large common living room with a cozy atmosphere provided by the fireplace and comfy furniture. The center is located at the intersection of the Big Horse Creek and the Toe River which meanders around the boundary of the facility.

The purposes of *School of Scottish Arts (SSA)* are:

- to encourage the preservation of the folk arts, heritage and traditions of Scotland
- to extend the knowledge and practice of Scottish Arts by providing a center for learning and offering instruction conforming to traditional standards, and;
- to stimulate public interest in Scottish arts and traditions.

SSA accomplishes this mission by offering quality dance instruction from top teachers of Highland Dancing and by introducing and reinforcing knowledge of Scottish culture and history. *For more information on the School of Scottish Arts, please contact Patricia Johnston at [patriciaTJ@aol.com](mailto:patriciaTJ@aol.com). The school does not presently have a website.*

*North American Academy of Piping and Drumming* The piping and drumming school, started by the late John McFayden, of Glasgow, Scotland, and Sandy Jones, has been operating in Valle Crucis, North Carolina for over 40 years. The school's professional instructors conduct one-week classroom instruction on piping and drumming. Room, board and tuition are included at a very reasonable price. *Visit the Academy's website at [www.naapd.org](http://www.naapd.org)*

YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A SCOTTISH HERITAGE MEMBER TO APPLY FOR THESE SCHOLARSHIPS

MIDDLE TENNESSEE  
2016

# HIGHLAND GAMES CELTIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH  
AT THE HERMITAGE

The Nashville Celts  
Roving Celtic Minstrels  
Highland Pipe and Drum Bands  
The Secret Commonwealth  
Fekless Fear Dearg



Gaelic Athletic Club  
Heavy Scottish Athletics  
Celtic Clans & Organizations  
Scottish and Irish Dancers  
Food & Craft Vendors



9:00AM - 5:00PM

*Andrew Jackson's*  
**HERMITAGE**  
HOME OF THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.THEHERMITAGE.COM](http://WWW.THEHERMITAGE.COM)

FOR MORE INFO VISIT [WWW.MIDTENNGAMES.COM](http://WWW.MIDTENNGAMES.COM) OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT MIDDLE TENNESSEE HIGHLAND GAMES

MIDDLE TENNESSEE  
2016

# HIGHLAND GAMES CELTIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH  
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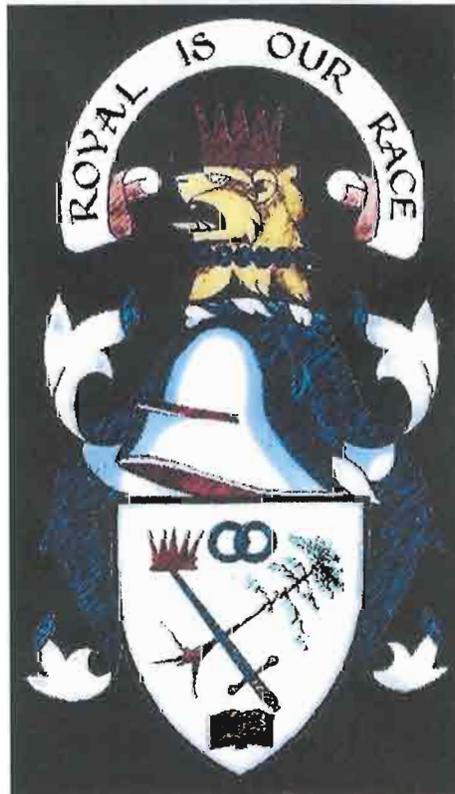
# THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

## 'S Rioghal Ma Dhream! Royal is my Race!

Fàilte! The Clan Gregor Society is a growing organisation with membership throughout the world. It's most active objectives are to extend the links of kinship and friendship between MacGregors, wherever they may be, and to provide a focal point for all members of the Clan and interested visitors who wish to learn more of our noble past.

**Sir Malcolm MacGregor of MacGregor**  
7th Baronet of Lanrick and Balquidder  
**24th Chief of Clan Gregor**

Clan Gregor  
has  
Great Lakes,  
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Pacific  
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Sandy Springs,  
GA 30350

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,  
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**Join Clan Gregor today! [www.clangregor.org](http://www.clangregor.org)**

# The Scotland Adventure Continues

Dr. Pete Hylton, Ed.D., Fellow of the Institution of Engineering and Technology, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Fulbright Scholar. 317-274-7192 and [phylton@iupui.edu](mailto:phylton@iupui.edu)



Caithness Flag



Scottish Flag

## Life at the Edge of the World

One of our friends in England, upon hearing that we were considering moving to Thurso in Caithness, said “That’s the edge of the world.” Well, we are a long way from the big cities and the highly traveled byways. But Thurso is not the edge of the world. However, on a good day, I think you may be able to see it from here.

So, you might ask, just what is there to do at the edge of the world? Well, let me tell you..... for entertainment in the evenings, there are monthly Accordion & Fiddle Club meetings in both Thurso and neighboring Wick. Now, before you scoff, these are great fun. The music is lively and entertaining and the people are friendly and welcoming. It is a good time and an evening well spent.



There are also frequent small concerts by visiting performers, mostly playing wonderful traditional Scottish music on fiddle, guitar, pipes and accordion.

St. Peter’s Operative Masonic Lodge in Thurso meets twice a month in what appears to be an old castle but is actually an old regimental army

headquarters. The John O’ Groats Lodge in Castletown meets twice a month in a renovated church. The third local lodge meets down in Latheron Wheel, about 30 minutes away. Their Tyler carries a sword that was used at the Battle of Waterloo. All three have welcomed me with open arms.



There is a local community theater that performs at The Mill, and they have a play they are performing this month. I have already been solicited by the group of men who build props and scenery.



I have connected with a very active Church of Scotland (closely related to the American Presbyterian church) congregation and there is also a Sunday evening Evensong service at the Episcopal Church (essentially an Anglican congregation, but you can’t call yourself the Church of England and expect anyone in Scotland to attend).



# UNICORN LIMITED

*Established 1979*



Our new book for the week actually first was published in 1906! It is the most important record of the actual design of the birlinns which plied the seas on the west coast of Scotland and throughout the Hebrides from about 1000 to 1600. This new reprint has been completely reset, with the original drawings remaining true to the original. It comes to you on lovely, extra-heavy paper. It is much more than a “picture book,” for each galley is described in detail, giving specifics on rigging, oars, sails, and more. If your clan originates in the Western Isles or on the west coast of the mainland, this is for you! As usual, the postage is \$3.99 to any US address; for our over-the-border customers, we will charge actual First Class Mail International rates. [Contact Vicki](#) if you have questions or to place your order. Happy reading! **Renny and Vicki McLeod**

P.S. For those of you who are really serious about this sort of thing, are from one of the Viking clans, or just enjoy a jolly good adventure, be sure to check out this website: <http://www.drakenexpeditionamerica.com/>. On April 26th, a group of hardy sailors set sail from Norway in the largest dragon ship of modern times. They are headed over the fabled route from Norway to Iceland, Greenland, Canada, and finally the USA. Keep up with their voyage, as they once again prove that We should be celebrating Lief Erickson Day rather than Columbus Day!

**Argyllshire Gallies: Historical Examples from Scotland’s West Coast** By Lord Archibald Campbell. 80 pages. paperback. spiral binding. **\$24.95** Over a century ago, Lord Archibald Campbell, a noted Argyllshire and military historian, determinedly set out to preserve the last remaining illustrations of the Scottish birlinns, the Viking-inspired ships which so characterized the history of the Western Isles from 1000-1600. No ships, no plans, no written descriptions remained which would provide the detail for these sturdy ships which Campbell so avidly sought. The only remaining evidence was in the carved tombstones of Highland chiefs or knights, on Iona and in other gravesites of the west of Scotland. He copied the detailing at the last moment before weather and time completely destroyed evidence of the rigging, the masts, the oars, the spars and yardarms of these iconic masterpieces of sailing technology. Whether MacLean or MacDonald, Campbell or MacDougall, MacLeod or MacIan, Mackinnon or MacNaughton, the great chiefs of the West demanded the very best transport available, and in these luxury ships they traveled the great water highways from Orkney to Argyll and beyond. Lord Archibald (1846-1913) was an avid “gentleman-historian,” who devoted many years to his thorough researches. Aside from Argyllshire Gallies, his other works include *Highland Dress, Arms, and Ornament*; *Records of Argyll*; and *Scottish Swords from the Battlefield at Culloden*.

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There is always a warm fire going at the Comm Bar just a block away. And at the YNot Pub just 4 blocks away there is good atmosphere, good food, good taps, and good internet. The pavilion is a small, 8 table establishment with good food and a great view of the harbor. So if you don't want to sit home in the evenings and watch the interesting stuff on BBC (much more interesting and intellectual than US television in my humble opinion), there is always someplace to go.

Well, that covers the evenings. But what does one do on a pretty day? And mind you, a pretty day in Caithness is nothing short of incredible.

You could go watch football (soccer to you colonials) as the boys from Caithness, who play for Wick, take on their opponents in the North Highland League. The team's nickname is the Scories. Scorie is a Scot name for a seagull. Trust me, if you live in Caithness, you see a lot of scories. Note the team mascot in the photo below.



Also note that the field (that's "pitch" in Scot's dialect) slopes uphill to the far corner of the second photo. So half the game you are running uphill to score. Could that be a home field advantage? Well it was on the day that I went to watch Wick take on their nearest rivals, as when the home team got to run uphill toward the goal, they came from two goals behind, while a man short due

to a red card, and tied the game against their arch rivals, and the league leaders, the Brora Rangers from just to our south in Sutherland.

Or, you can watch the local rugby team. I never understood rugby in the states, and I still don't. Thank goodness the Scots don't play Cricket. I would NEVER figure it out.



Now shinty – there is a sport that I can get into. Ice hockey is descended from this uniquely Highland sport. Note how similar the sticks are. Except shinty is played on grass and without pads and with a rock-hard ball instead of a puck.



The story goes, that during the clearances, many Scots relocated to Nova Scotia (Latin for New Scotland) in Canada. But the island was too rough and rocky to provide a flat and smooth place large enough to play shinty. That is, until the lakes froze over.....and hockey came into being.

Or you can join everyone in the UK in the pub on the day of the Grand National, a huge steeplechase event held at Aintree. Interestingly, I



## Elliot Clan Society, USA Membership Information 2014

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

[www.elliotclan.com](http://www.elliotclan.com)

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 allows you to meet other Elliots with similar interests who share our Scottish heritage.

Contact Patricia Tennyson Bell

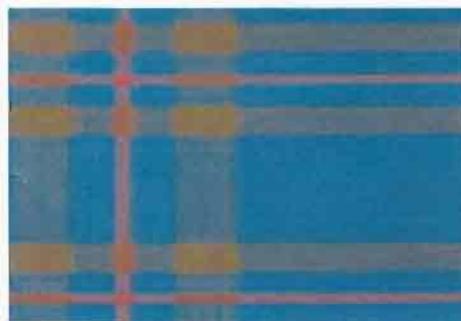
*Email: [dublincollen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dublincollen@sbcglobal.net) or write*

2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

*(Fortiter Et Recte)*

*Boldly and Rightly*



visited Aintree last year, but for the time trials held on the remains of the old track on which the original British Grand Prix was held. Note the cars racing by the white fences for the horse circuit.



Or you could go explore the ruins of a castle, like the Castle of Old Wick, below. This is one of the still-standing (sort of) oldest castles in Britain. It was built in the 1160s by Harold, Earl of Cathness. Like many of the early rulers of the north, he was half Norse and half Scots. Caithness, Orkney and Shetland are closer to Scandinavia than they are to London. Thurso and Wick were settled by the Vikings. You see history around every corner.



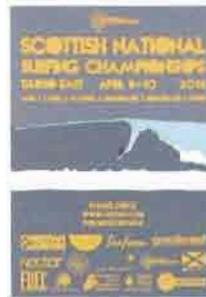
Or you can go bird watching....especially seabirds on the cliffs.



Or you can walk the beach in Thurso, with a great view of the cliffs of Dunnet Head in the near distance and the islands of Orkney in the far distance.



Prefer water sport ? Try surfing.

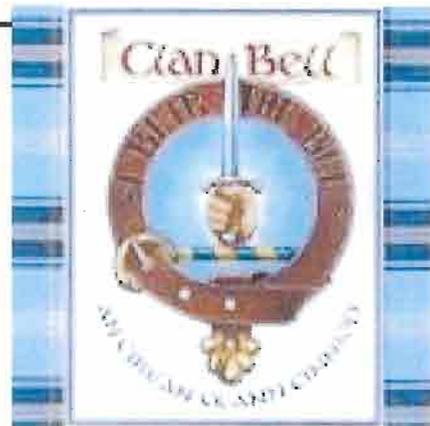


You can spend time gardening in your wee yard. In Scotland you never need to worry about having to water your flowers.



You can walk one of the many costal walks past the geos (long narrow steep sided clefts in the

# Clan Bell North America, Inc.



This old West Marche Riding Clan, one of the Border Clans from the early 1100s, were retainers of Clan Douglas and also allied with the best Border families through blood and friendship. Their land holdings were extensive. To survive on the often invaded Borders, 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 were “encouraged” to emigrate to the Ulster Plantation in Northern Ireland after 1610.

After William Bell, called “Redcloak” and Chief of the Clan died in 1627, the chiefship became dormant. Without leadership, the Bells ceased to exist as a viable clan.

Clan Bell North America 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.

CBNA cordially invites membership inquiries from persons named Bell (all spellings), their descendants and friends. A quarterly newsletter is published. Tents are hosted at major Scottish festivals from coast to coast in the USA.

President & Membership:

**David E. Bell**

1513 Anterra Drive  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
debellinn@reagan.com

*Visit our Website:*

**clanbell.org**





# clankeith-usa.org

Official website of The Clan Keith Society USA, Inc

If you have genealogical ties to the surname Keith (including alternate spellings such as Keeth) or any of Clan Keith's Sept family names, you were born into the Clan Keith!

Septs and spellings include: Achindachy - Astine - Aston - Austen - Austin - Cate(s) - Dick - Dickson - Dicson - Dixon - Dixon - Falconer - Faulkner - Harvey - Harvie - Hackston - Haxton - Hervie - Hervey - Hurrie - Hurry - Keath - Keech - Keeth - Keith - Keyth - Kite - Lum - Lumgair - MacAustin - MacDick - MacDicken - MacDickie - MacDeetch - MacKeeth - MacKeitch - MacKeith - Marshall - Urie - Urry

The Clan Keith Society would be delighted for you to join us as a member. For more information, please email [membershipclankeith@mindspring.com](mailto:membershipclankeith@mindspring.com) or call 404-539-5222.



Dunnottar Castle, stronghold of the Keiths (near Stonehaven)

Please plan to attend your local Highland Games and, if you see our tent, please come by for a visit. The tent convener will have information about Clan Keith's fascinating history as well as membership information. Membership in the Clan is not expensive but one of the finest investments that you will every make. Hope to see you soon!

The Clan Colquhoun Society in North America  
is now...

**The Clan Colquhoun International Society**

**<http://www.clancolquhoun.com>**

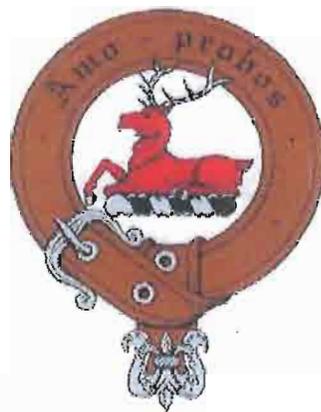


Contact Tom Hodges:  
[sijepuis@bellsouth.net](mailto:sijepuis@bellsouth.net)

Allied Families and Septs of  
Clan Colquhoun are:  
Colquhoun, Calhoun, Cowan,  
MacClintock & MacManus

# Clan Blair Society

Memberships are cordially invited for Blair  
descendants and other interested parties.



**[www.clanblair.org](http://www.clanblair.org)**

President Clan Blair Society: Jim Blair  
7200 S. Prince Street  
Littleton, CO 80120  
Email: [president@clanblair.org](mailto:president@clanblair.org)



Membership Chairman: Charles Diman  
3413 Sunnybrook Drive, Charlotte, NC 28210-4715  
Email: [ClanMembership@clanblair.org](mailto:ClanMembership@clanblair.org)

costal cliffs) and stacks (free standing rock outcroppings)



And maybe explore one of the old fishing harbors, examining its abandoned engineering works and old buildings.



You can explore a loch (Scottish for lake).



Or you can go hill walking. Hill walking is a great pastime on sunny days. And walking is easy in Scotland, as the paths have the right-of-way, and landowners cannot close down or block off footpaths.

Send any kind of monetary donation to subscribe to

# Celtic Seasons

...from the stream of Celtic Consciousness



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When on designated paths, you are allowed to cross property lines and fences, often with either a turnstile gate,.....



or a “kissing gate,” so named because the sons and daughters of adjoining property owners could meet at the property line fence and climb to the top of the gate for “social interaction.”



Both types of gates let you cross fences that keep the livestock in the right place. Of course, as you hike, you share the terrain with the natives.



It is spring, so the golden gorse is in bloom on the hillsides.



You pass old steadings and crofters cottages from only a few hundred years ago.



Sometimes you find things you don't recognize.....like this next photo. Any guesses? It is the first floor of a windmill. The upper story and the blades were wood, so are long gone. Use of wind power has been important in Caithness for a long time. But then we get LOTS of wind up here.



## LOVE TARTAN...?

The Scottish Tartans Authority is a registered charity based in Scotland and we are the only organisation dedicated to the preservation, promotion and protection of tartan. We would love you to join us as a member and support our worthy cause...



Membership directly contributes to ensuring that Scotland's iconic cloth is maintained for future generations of Scots, both home and abroad. Exclusive benefits include a regular newsletter, access to our Tartan and Clan experts as well as lots more.

**JOIN NOW FOR \$30**

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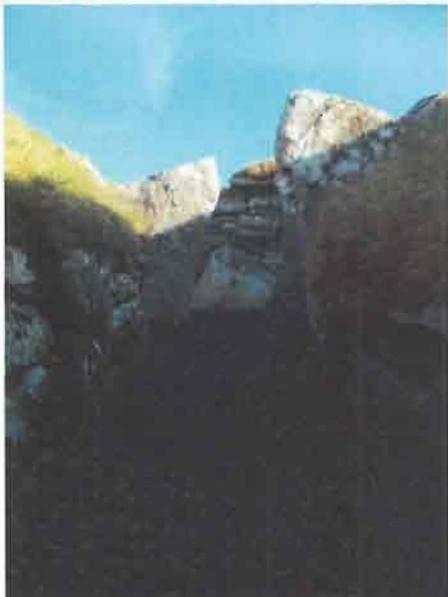
[www.tartansauthority.com](http://www.tartansauthority.com)

Or contact us at

[admin@tartansauthority.com](mailto:admin@tartansauthority.com)



You might find an ancient burial cairn from Neolithic times, which are 3000-5000 years old. This one, the Cairn O' Get, has been partially excavated and you can see how the opening corridor led to the inner chamber.



The stones that once made up the roof were taken in the 1700s to build this dam, which still holds back the water today. Note the stone sluice gate.



And you never know when you might encounter a standing stone, either alone, like the one shown here, or in a circle.



Archeology can be a pastime here, and there are Heritage Centers in Thruso, Wick, Castletown and Dunbeath that are centers for those with this type of interest. One night I attended a presentation

# The Families of Clan MacTavish Welcome You to Discover Your Scottish Heritage!



Chief Steven  
MacTavish

Family names associated with Clan MacTavish:  
*Cash, Kash, MacCamish, MacCash, MacCavish,  
MacComb, MacCombie, MacComich, MacComish,  
MaComie, Macomie, MacCosh, MacLaws,  
MacElhose, MacLehose, MacTavish, MCTavish,  
Mactavish, Mactavis, M'Tavish, MacThomas,  
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,  
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,  
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant  
spellings.*

## We Are Clan MacTavish!



For information about joining us email: [clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com](mailto:clanmactavishUSA@gmail.com)

at one of the heritage centers, entitled “Sun, Moon and Ancient Stones.” A gentleman who has spent years examining close to a hundred burial cairns in the Highlands and Islands explained the cairns using a combination of archeology, astronomy and folklore. Most cairns have a circular burial chamber at the center in which were buried bones or entire skeletons. Sometimes they were also stored in cavities or niches built into the walls of the center chamber. The passageway from the outside was usually built about 3 feet tall, such that it could only be entered on one’s knees.

These passageways were almost always aligned such that on a special day/night, the light of the setting sun aligned perfectly with the passageway such that the light would stream directly down the passageway, illuminating the center chamber. His photos showed some astonishing effects as the red-orange glow of the setting sun literally made the inner chamber glow in an eerie orange-ish light.

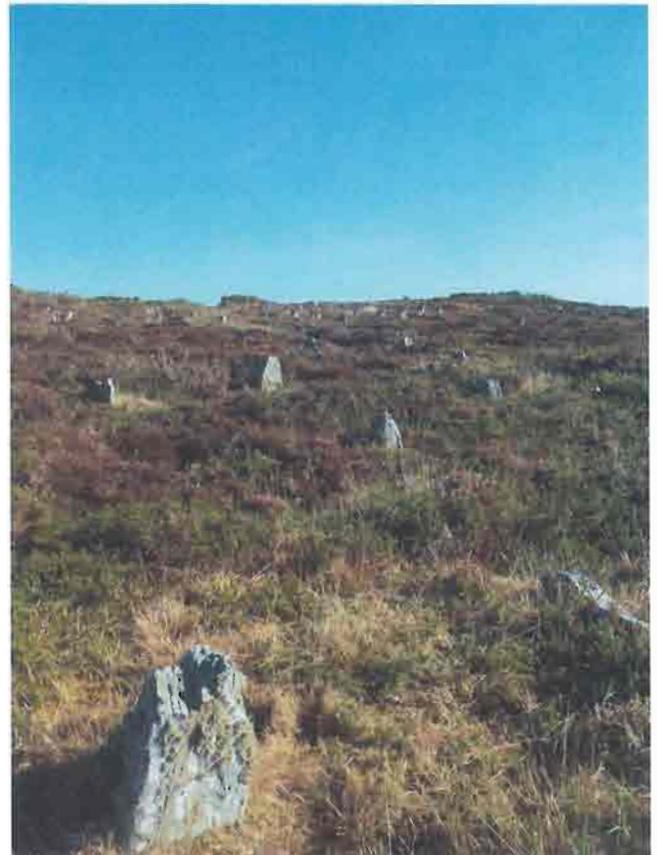
The most frequent day for this alignment to occur was midwinter sunset (21 December, the winter solstice). However, other special dates, known from Gaelic folklore, were also chosen as the date to align with the sun, such as Beltain (spring fertility festival, in May, halfway between the spring equinox and the summer solstice), Samhain (the end of harvest festival, in October, halfway between the autumn equinox and the winter solstice), and Lughnasa (the beginning of harvest festival, in August, halfway between the summer solstice and autumn equinox).

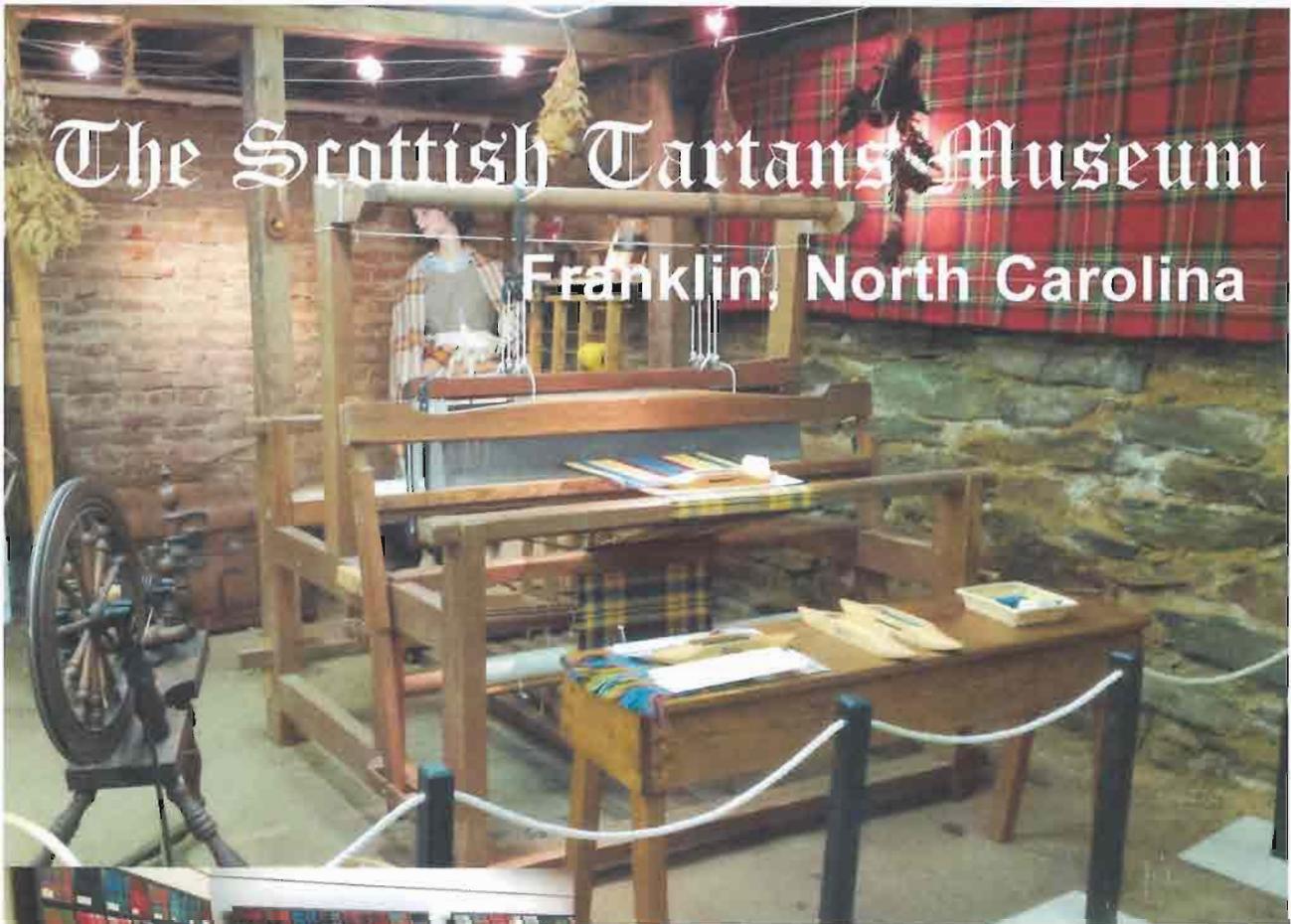
Perhaps the most amazing is the huge cairn at Maeshowes, on one of the nearby Orkney islands (we can see the southern-most island on a clear day). We have visited Maeshowes before, and the center chamber can hold over two dozen people and the passageway (which aligns at winter solstice) is tall enough to walk down it, merely bent over a wee bit. There are other small channels built through the walls which align to the sunset on the other three special days. This structure was built over 5000 years ago. If you ever come to visit us.....plan to

take the time to go to Orkney and see this structure as well as some of the rings of standing stones.

Speaking of rings of stones, Caithness has a lot of those, also. Our speaker explained that these are usually constructed such that if you stand in the center, there is a stone aligned with the axis of the setting or rising sun on each of those important dates. A few sites, such as the Cairns of Clava, have a ring of standing stones encircling a cairn, so the alignments of all the stones took quite a bit of planning and work.

There are a few standing stone sites in Caithness which are arranged in an array rather than a circle. The most notable of these is not far from us. It has 192 stones arranged in 22 rows and is inventively known as the Hill O’ Many Stones. I visited it one recent sunny day. No one has yet figured out the purpose for these sites or the explanation of the arrangement of these types of arrays.





The Scottish Tartans Museum & Heritage Center is located in downtown Franklin, North Carolina.

This tartans museum is a non profit organization operated by a Board of Directors and the only tartan museum in the United States.

Our museum is located downstairs which shows the evolution of the kilt and the history of tartan.

Our gift shop, which supports the operation of our museum, is located upstairs and our volunteers are trained to look up surnames and provide customers with a bit of history and what tartan their family should wear.

We offer our gift shop online and brick and mortar. Here you can order custom made kilts, ladies kilted skirts, sashes, scarves, neckties, fabric by the swatch or by the yard, kilt hose and all quality accessories to accent your highland wear.

Admission is \$2.00 per adult and \$1.00 for Children 6-12.

We are open Monday through Saturday 10-5 pm (Winter hours are 11 AM until 4 PM) It is always a good idea to call first if you are planning a trip to our quaint wee mountain town because we might have snow and ice.

Visit our website and learn some history as well

**[www.scottishtartans.org](http://www.scottishtartans.org)**

Telephone 828-524-7472 or email us [tartans@scottishtartans.org](mailto:tartans@scottishtartans.org)

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So, as you can see, there is plenty to do out here at the edge of the world. If you are a moogie (British slang for kitty – and no one seems to know why), then you spend your day moving from window to window, watching Scotland walk by. Floyd, Annie and Othello have arrived and adjusted to their new home rather quickly. My lap is often full to overflowing in the evenings.



We have found that here are many differences in Scots English and American English. And often phrases take on completely different meanings. Among the nearby towns are Skarfskerry, Wick, Mey, Latheron Wheel, Broubster, Lybster, Nibster, Scrabster, Reay, Dounreay and Tongue. A resident of Tongue shows his support for hometown with the following bumper sticker. In America, this might be interpreted differently.



Then there is a hilarious story of a friend of mine, who when a lady visited from the states, asked her if she would like to have him knock on her bedroom door to wake her up in the morning. In a typical British turn of phrase, he asked “Would you like me to knock you up in the morning?” He was a wee bit embarrassed when she explained what that would mean in America.

Ahhhh.....the joys of learning a new language and a new country.

I watched a silent film made in the fifties here in Caithness which had been lost in some archive for all these years. It had recently been rediscovered and set to music with modern musicians and traditional tunes. I have visited castles from centuries ago and Neolithic cairns.....50 years, 500 years, or 5000 years,....Caithness is timeless. Caithness is Caithness.

A man who spoke up after the film said that many people would pay to find the peace, tranquillity, and pace of Caithness. But you can't buy it. You have to find it. And the A9 is a long road north, and most people run out of patience before they get here.

Cheers from the edge of the world..!

*“Did not strong connections draw me elsewhere, I believe Scotland would be the country I would choose to end my days in.” .....*Benjamin Franklin



# CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY



## SEPTS

Airth, Alirdes, Allardes,  
 Allardice, Allardyce,  
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 Bonner, Bontein, Bontine,  
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 Buchlyrie, Buchlyry,  
 Bullman, Buntain, Buntin,  
 Buntin, Buntine, Bunting,  
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 Buntyng, Buling, Conyers,  
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 or Sept of Graham,  
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 invited to share  
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**For more information, visit our website at [www.clangrahamsociety.org](http://www.clangrahamsociety.org).**