

Vol. X No. 6 *Beth's Newfangled Family Tree* Section B November 2015

# Top Stirling tourist attraction shortlisted for Thistle Award!

The National Wallace Monument in Stirling has made it to the regional finals in this year's prestigious Scottish Thistle Awards. The famous heritage attraction has been nominated in the Central South East Best Visitor Attraction category.

Recognised for providing a compelling experience for visitors and for delivering high standards of service, The National Wallace Monument has recently been upgraded through a £400,000 investment programme, and this year expects to welcome over 100,000 visitors.

Demonstrating exemplary levels of customer service and a commitment to hospitality, The Thistle Award for Best Visitor Attraction is a hotly-contested award and Ken Thomson, Marketing Manager of Stirling District Tourism, is delighted that the Monument has been nominated. He said: "It really means a lot to us to be included as a finalist in the Best Visitor Attraction category and to be recognised as 'one of Scotland's most memorable experiences'.

"2015 has truly been an exceptional year for the

Monument, as we celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the release of Braveheart by delivering a special programme of themed events and activities for visitors. We are also proud of our collaboration with other visitor attractions and with Destination Stirling - helping to promote the city as a heritage destination with a strong appeal for visitors."



The Scottish Thistle Awards celebrates excellence, innovation and success within the country's valuable hospitality and tourism sector, which generates around £12million for the Scottish economy. The successful finalists in each category will represent their respective region in the glittering national Scottish Thistle Award final in March 2016, part of the Signature Programme of Scottish Tourism Week.

Stephen Carter OBE, VisitScotland Board Member and Chair of the Scottish Thistle Awards Industry Panel, said: "It's been fantastic to see such an overwhelming response from the general public to this year's Scot-

*Continued on page 9*





## Dull & Boring are sisters! Sister cities, that is.

It wasn't that long ago when the town of Boring, Oregon voted to become a "sister city" of Dull, a Scottish city near Perthshire.

Elizabeth Leighton, from Perthshire, came up with the idea after a cycling vacation in Oregon.

Boring, population 8000, was named after William H. Boring, who fought on the Union side in the American War Between the States.

The community of Dull, with a population of less than ninety, is thought to be from the Gaelic word for meadow - or maybe from the word for "snare."

Both communities are smiling at the prospect of the very eye-catching signs this will inevitably require in both towns.

And, yes, there is a Dull and Boring FaceBook page!

# Society of Antiquaries of Scotland

Our latest publication -

## *Scotland in later Prehistoric Europe*

Edited by Fraser Hunter *FSA Scot* and

Ian Ralston *FSA Scot*

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Email: info@socantscot.org

How did Scotland relate to wider European patterns in later prehistory? This key topic is addressed by the papers in this volume, which review recent work on the Scottish later Bronze Age and Iron Age in the light of its neighbors. The Authors use the explosion of recent data to investigate settlements and domestic architecture, art, craft, beliefs and environmental change.

# Rules for Success in Genealogy Research

**Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S.**

Reference Librarian | Ft. Myers Regional Library

Genealogy is one of the most enjoyable, yet challenging endeavors that one will encounter. Unlike the popular Staples commercial that features the infamous “easy” button, there is no such shortcut in genealogy. Success depends not only on passion, but also research skill, patience, knowledge of historical context, and some luck. Of all of these factors, knowing the historical context and place of residence is paramount. Historical context usually impacted the life decisions made by all of our ancestors. This article is designed to help you as you advance through the research process. Some important concepts are listed below.

Whenever you uncover facts, cite all of your sources completely. This is a must because without documentation it’s likely you’ll need to go back to check the facts.

Under no circumstances should you ever assume that another researcher’s information is absolutely accurate. This is true even if they documented their sources. Information without documentation should never be trusted.

When dealing with the spelling of names, whether it is an individual, locality of residence or origin, you frequently will encounter variations. Spelling was not standardized for many years.

Regardless of the source (print or online), never accept information found on someone’s family tree at face value. Treating it as a clue may be useful but accepting it verbatim is not a good practice.

When documenting sources, take time to examine the information for accuracy. Don’t make assumptions based on what appear to be well-documented sources.

Anything a human being can do right, they can also do wrong. In some cases, errors can be intentional to cover up issues.

Sharing information among researchers is the key to why genealogists have achieved success over the decades. However, check and double check your information before recording or sharing.

When you run into roadblocks or research challenges, step back and check the documentation. Sometimes it’s a good idea to take a short break from research then have a second look at the record or documentation. The break or re-examination of the source citations may provide you with fresh insight. In many cases the answer is there but you need time to refresh and mull over the options. This is also another time when re-exam-

ining the historical context can be beneficial.

You must maintain an open mind about your ancestors. The decisions they made were based on the historical context of the time.

Don’t be afraid to ask for help. The genealogy community is populated with individuals of all skill levels and areas of expertise, most of whom are happy to assist others.

Share. Offer to exchange information with other researchers. Share a little at a time and request a few documented facts from the other person. Sharing can open up opportunities to overcome research roadblocks.

Bryan Mulcahy, Ft. Myers Regional Library, 2450 First Street, Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Email Bryan: [bmulcahy@leegov.com](mailto:bmulcahy@leegov.com) Telephone: Voice 239-533-4626 | Fax 239-485-1160 or visit: [leelibrary.net](http://leelibrary.net)



# 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, Mactavls, M'Tavish, MacThomas,  
Stephens, Stephenson, Stevens, Stevenson, Tavish,  
Tawesson, Thom, Thomas, Thomason, Thomasson,  
Thompson, Thomson, Tod, and Todd, and all variant  
spellings.*

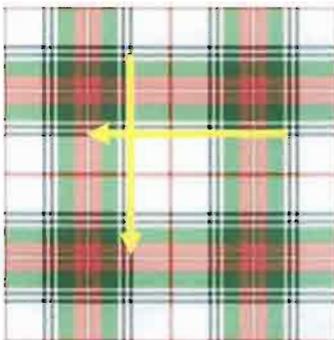
## We Are Clan MacTavish!



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



The first thing to remember about tartan is that from a weave pattern standpoint “All tartans are plaids, but not all plaids are tartans”. To be a tartan the vertical and horizontal patterns must be exactly the same, intersecting at right angles. Plaids don’t have to. “Plaid” (*plad*) is generally a North American word.



Secondly, the word “plaid” is pronounced *played* as in “I *played* the bagpipes”. In Scotland, a plaid is a tartan cloth slung over the shoulder as a kilt accessory (*fly plaid*), or a plain ordinary blanket such as one would have on a bed. Actually the kilt was originally called a *belted plaid*. The plaid therefore, started out as a piece of clothing, not a design.

A *tartan* refers to a pattern of inter-locking stripes, running both from the *warp* and the *weft* of the cloth. Typically, one thinks of “clan tartans”. This was not the case in the past. Tartans have been found dating as early as 3000 BC, virtually everywhere there was woven cloth. Tartan can be dated in Scotland as early as the 3rd or 4th century AD. Yet only in Scotland has tartan been given cultural significance. Why?

Originally, tartan designs had no names or symbolic meaning. All tartan was hand woven and usually supplied locally. While certain designs were common in some areas and not others, there was no “clan tartan” system. Tartan in general did become extremely common in the Highlands. By the 17th century, tartan clothing was recognized as characteristic of Highland dress. It was so identified with the *Highland Gael* after the Battle of Culloden in 1746 that the British government’s *Act of Proscription* forbade the wearing of tartan in the Highlands in an attempt to suppress the rebellious Scottish culture.

By the end of the 18th century, commercial weavers had taken up the production of tartan. Most notably was Wm. Wilson & Sons of Bannockburn. This firm began sometime around 1765 and became quite successful, primarily because they became the sole supplier of tartan cloth to the Highland “Watch” Regiments of the British Army. Because they were producing cloth in such large quantity, they developed standard colors and patterns early on. Initially the patterns were

assigned numbers, but soon pattern names appeared. These not only included names of regiments and Highland clans but also names of towns. Some were just fanciful names. Names were much more appealing than numbers. In *Wilson’s Key Pattern Book of 1819*, some 100 tartans, of the 250 total, were named.

In the early 19th century, the idea that tartan names actually represented real clan connections began growing. Scots expatriates, who actually grew up outside the Highlands began to get interested in preserving Highland culture. In 1815, the Highland Society of London wrote to the clan chiefs asking for samples of their clan tartans. Many chiefs had no idea what their “clan tartan” was supposed to be so either wrote to tartan suppliers such as Wilsons, or asked older men of their clans if they recalled any particular tartan being worn.

In 1822, King George IV visited Edinburgh in a veritable “tartan fest” partly organized by Sir Walter Scott. All the clan chiefs were asked to come out and greet the King in their proper clan tartan. Since many did not have a tartan, no doubt new ones were created for the occasion. From this point on, it became firmly established that to be a *proper* tartan, it had to be named. With the blessing of the clan chiefs, by the end of the 19th century, the custom was firmly established that tartan was representative of the clan.

While clan tartans are the most well known, tartans can, in fact, represent many different things. Some represent families, towns, districts, corporations, occupations, individuals, events - you name it! What makes a tartan “official” is not age or antiquity, but whether it has the approval of the governing body of what that tartan represents. If a clan chief, or a state legislature, or the CEO of a company says this is the official tartan, it is so, whether it is brand new or 200 years old.

Therefore, there are no rules governing what tartan you may wear. However, since tartans today have meaning, when you wear a tartan, you identify yourself with what that tartan represents. Most select a tartan that identifies with some aspect of their heritage. If there is a tartan for your surname, that would be an obvious choice. But nothing is wrong with wearing a tartan from another branch of your family. Ultimately, it is a personal choice. Whatever you choose, you should know your tartan and your reasons for wearing it. Always be prepared to answer the question: “What’s your tartan?”

For more information go to:

- [www.scottishtartans.org](http://www.scottishtartans.org)
- [www.thescottishweaver.com](http://www.thescottishweaver.com)
- [www.tartansauthority.com/tartan-ferret](http://www.tartansauthority.com/tartan-ferret)

This is an adaptation of an article written by the Tartan Museum of Franklin, NC. It has been edited here for content and space requirements. - Ed.

Thanks to the Clan Stewart Society in America newsletter, *Fesse Chequy*. Contact Clan Stewart by emailing [ericking@comcast.net](mailto:ericking@comcast.net) Thanks also to the Tartan Museum in Franklin, NC. See their ad elsewhere in this publication.

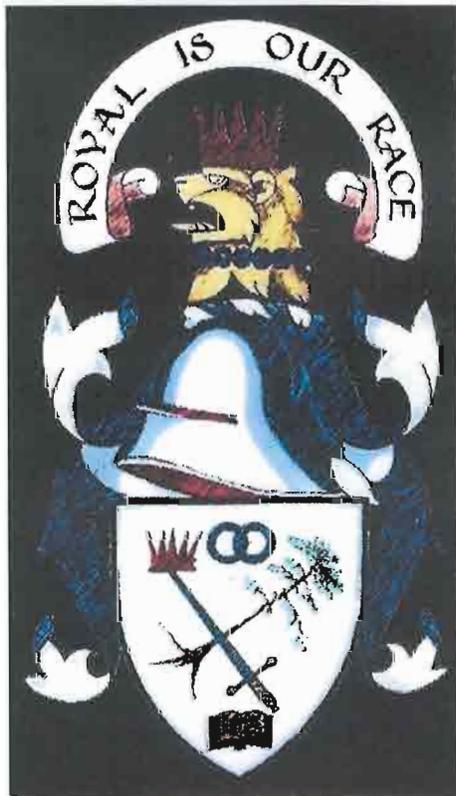
# THE CLAN GREGOR SOCIETY

## 'S Rioghal Mo 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,  
New England,  
Pacific  
Northwest,  
Western  
United States  
and  
Southeast  
Chapters



For membership,  
contact:  
120 Wicksford Glen  
Sandy Springs,  
GA 30350

Ms. Ishbel McGregor,  
Secretary  
5 Alloa Road  
CAMBUS by Alloa  
Clackmannanshire  
FK10 2NT  
Scotland

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

# Did you know about this memorial?



It's called the "9/11 Living Memorial Plaza." Completed in 2009 for \$2 million, it sits on 5 acres of hillside, 20 miles from the center of Jerusalem.

The memorial is a 30-foot, bronze American flag that forms the shape of a flame to commemorate the flames of the Twin Towers.

The base of the monument is made of melted steel from the wreckage of the World Trade Center.

The base includes this engraving in Hebrew and in English: This metal remnant was taken from the remains of the Twin towers, that imploded in the September 11 disaster. It was sent to Israel by

the City of New York to be incorporated into this memorial. This metal piece, like the entire monument, is a manifestation of the special relationship between New York and Jerusalem. Surrounding the monument are plaques with all of the names of the victims of 9/11.

It is the only memorial outside the United States which includes the names of all who perished in the terrorist attacks, including five Israeli citizens.

The site solemnly overlooks Jerusalem's largest cemetery, Har HaMenuchot.

The monument is often used for memorial and commemoration services.



## Clan Anderson Cottages

We look forward to welcoming you personally to visit any of our unique 4 Star properties in Dumfries & Galloway, South West Scotland

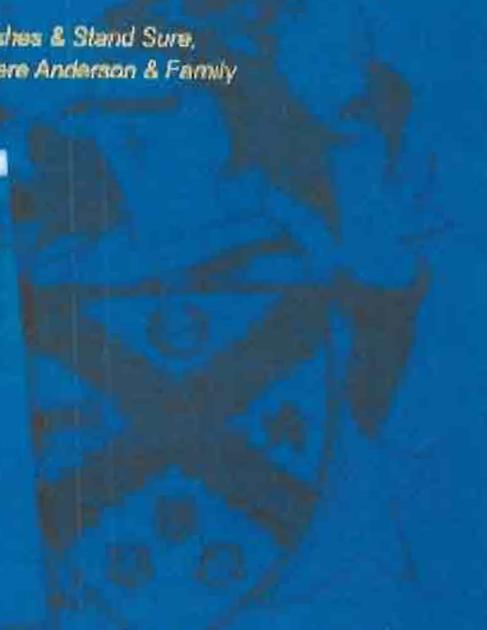
As a small family business we the Anderson family are the only staff we have. From Clan Chief to cottage cleaners we do it all we are the real chief cooks and bottle washers and your visit with us will be all the more special for it.

As an international member of the American Society of Appraisers determining value has always been a key priority.

Never more so than when it comes to offering our own properties to visitors from near and far.

To my mind the most important aspect of looking after guests begins before they even arrive by offering outstanding value for money. So even before you meet us you can rest assured that the quality of the properties including furnishings are of the highest order and value on offer.

*Best wishes & Stand Sure,  
Hope Vere Anderson & Family*



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Anderson Estate, Barbeth, New Abbey, Dumfries, DG2 5DB



## The largest free-standing public genealogy library in the United States of America writes to us!

Hi Beth,

You are very welcomed to plug our genealogy links (periodicals?).

While you are at it you might like to explore our social media places, particularly our Pinterest page <https://www.pinterest.com/mgcgenealogy/> where we have lots of good links which we are adding to all the time.

Also, we have a presence on Facebook, Google+, Twitter, and YouTube, and you can find the little icons directly to our pages on them down on the right side of our MGC main page at: <http://www.mymcpl.org/genealogyhttp://www.mymcpl.org/genealogyhttp://www.mymcpl.org/genealogy>

In addition, our Digital & Archives section has some online resources.

All best,

Twila Rider, Cindi Fournier, **Periodicals Team, Midwest Genealogy Center**, Mid-Continent Public Library, 3440 South Lee's Summit Road, Independence, MO 64055. Call (816) 252-7228 or visit us on the Internet at [geper@mymcpl.org](mailto:geper@mymcpl.org)

### Scottish Thistle Award, *continued from page 1*

tish Thistle Awards.

"The Scottish Thistle Awards help celebrate the shining stars of our tourism and hospitality sector and recognise those who strive to offer visitors a truly memorable experience of Scotland."

The Central South East regional final will be held at Prestonfield House in Edinburgh on Wednesday 11 November 2015.

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



*The MidContinent Public Library, Independence, Missouri, home of the Midwest Genealogy Center.*

## Clan Wallace Celebrates their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Salado, TX Nov. 11-15

The Clan Wallace Society 50th Anniversary Gathering will be held at the birth place of the Society; Salado, Texas. The Gathering will coincide with the annual Salado Scottish Clan Gathering and Highland Games on November 11th through the 13th, 2016.

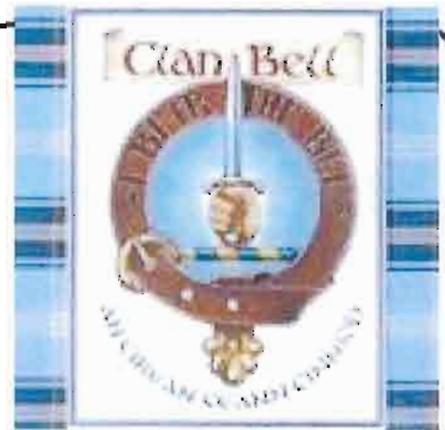
Since the Salado festival committee was aware of the significance of Salado to the CWS and our impending anniversary, they had previously chosen CWS to be the Hon-ored Clan for 2016. This will further contribute to the celebration.

Planning is in the early stages but it may not be too soon to begin your personal travel plans. Salado is located North of Austin TX and South of Belton TX. Members who will be fly-ing to the location can use one of two airports: Austin-Bergstrom (AUS), 50 miles South of Salado, and Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport (GRK), which is 21 miles Northwest of Salado.

More details on the Gathering will be made available in future Newsletters and on the CWS website as they are developed.



# 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**



# The Clan Currie Society Renews Role as Title Sponsor of the U.S. National Scottish Harp Championship of America

## *International Clan Society Commits to Five-Year Program*

(August 24, 2015) - The Scottish Harp Society of America (SHSA) is pleased to welcome back the Clan Currie Society as Title Sponsor of the U.S. National Scottish Harp Championship of America. The Clan Currie has renewed their five-year commitment to act as Title Sponsor for the Championships through 2019.

“We are absolutely thrilled to have the Clan Currie Society back as our Title Sponsor with such a generous and long-term gift,” said SHSA President Melanie Sandrock. “Part of the success of the National Championship depends upon generous donors like the Clan Currie to ensure we have sufficient funding in place to produce a first class competition. It is especially rewarding when that support comes from a clan with such an ancient and distinguished history of Gaelic poets and musicians.”

According to Robert Currie, president of the Clan Currie Society, this partnership is a perfect fit. “The founders of our Clan were the celebrated MacMhuirich bards of Medieval Scotland and the instrument of the Bard was the clarsach. Over the past several years Clan Currie has sharpened its focus on the arts with our concerts, special events and scholarship program. In addition to sponsoring this prestigious championship, we have also established an annual harp scholarship at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, Scotland as well

as signature Scottish Harp events at the Seaside Highland Games in Ventura, CA, the Richmond Highland Games in Virginia and the Scotland (CT) Highland Games.”

The 2015 US National Scottish Harp Championship™ will be held at the Stone Mountain Highland Games with Seumas Gagne, Distinguished Judge and Jen McGovern Narkevicius, Judge presiding. The Championship is slated to be held at the Edinboro (PA) Highland Games in 2016 and 2017.

### **About the Scottish Harp Society of America**

SHSA is the sanctioning body for the U.S. National Scottish Harp Championship™ and qualifying regional Scottish harp competitions. This annual U.S. National Scottish Harp Competition includes the National Championship with its prestigious Herbert P. MacNeal Award, the SHSA Travel Scholarship, along with competition for all ages and category of competitor, from beginning to professional harpers. Through the year, the Society sponsors performances, presentations, workshops and classes, competitions, and gatherings all over the United States and Canada.

Founded in 1981, SHSA is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the Scottish harp, the clarsach, and its music both ancient and modern. Members of the Society include musicians, harp makers, and people who simply enjoy listening to the Scottish harp. SHSA is dedicated to the performing of Scottish Music, both new and old, on the small harps of Scotland. We



*Scottish Weather  
Traveling to Scotland in  
the near future? Before  
you go, check the  
weather at:*

[www.metoffice.gov.uk](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk)

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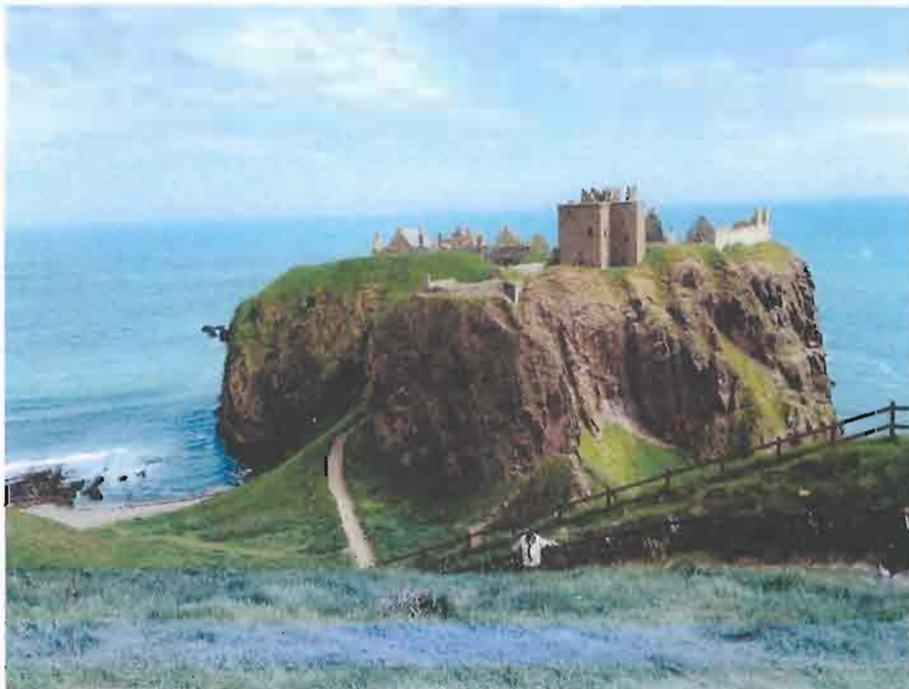
# clankeith-usa.org

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!

# Flowers of the Forest



A good man passed away at the age of 78. **George Stevenson "Buck" Buchanan** died, after battling cancer, on July 22, 2015. He was born July 6, 1937.

He was of Scottish Highlander ancestry, and was plaid to the bone his whole life through, wearing a kilt to many events with which he was involved.

Buck lived many places as the son of an US Air Force family and later, as Lt. Col. Buchanan himself, seeing life as a great adventure as a United States Air Force Navigator, he started his flying career in fighters, flying the Super Connie 121 and ended flying as a weapons systems officer in F-4 Phantom Fighter Jets.

He came full circle.

He finally settled in Vacaville, California where he lived for many years. He was married to Patricia Rose, who shared many world adventures with him. They traveled to Scotland, Hawaii, Italy and most recently, an Elbe River Cruise.

Being devout members of their beloved Catholic Church, many of their trips included visits to sacred religious sites, deepening their faith.

Best known as "Buck" to his many friends, he was an active member of the Military Officers Association of America, Red River Valley Fighter Pilots Association, Clan Buchanan Society, Interenational Society, Inc. and a great advocate for the POW/MIA Foundation as well as many others.

Buck was a founding member of the Clan Buchanan Society, International, Inc. (CBSI), for descendants of Scottish Highlanders. He also served many years as

President of CBSI.

CBSI opened the door for Buchanan's and septs (allied families) of Clan Buchanan to trace their ancestry to the Buchanan Clan ancestral homeland and join an organization that celebrates their heritage.

*Buck and your editor were fast friends for the last thousand years, well, a very long time. Working in CBSI, working at CBSI AGMs, having fun at games all over the place with other Buchanan folk. I will miss you, Buck, as will the entire CBSI family.*

## **Captain Robert James Thomas, USN (Ret.)**

Loving father and husband, and Naval Aviator extraordinaire, Robert James Thomas, left the bonds of this earth on Sunday, September 6, 2015, in Tallahassee, FL. It is now "Blue Skies" forever!

Robert was born in Syracuse, NY, on April 18, 1927, to Joseph Eugene and Helen Rose (Parker) Thomas.

He grew up in Cambria Heights, NY, and received a Bachelor's Degree from Hofstra College where he played Lacrosse.

As a commissioned Naval officer, Robert commanded a squadron of aviators through combat in Vietnam and brought every pilot back.

Following combat, he served at the Pentagon where he was assigned to test the Harrier aircraft in England, for possible purchase by the Navy.

The Marines did purchase this aircraft.

Robert served as the Commanding Officer at Naval Air Station Meridian, MS. He received numerous commendations and medals prior to his retirement.

Following his Navy career, Robert served the State of Michigan as Director of the Aeronautics Commission. After his second retirement, Robert and wife Linda moved to Florida where he consulted in aviation and taught at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

He was a member of the Tallahassee (FL) St.

*Continued on page 15*

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

**The Clan Colquhoun International Society**

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



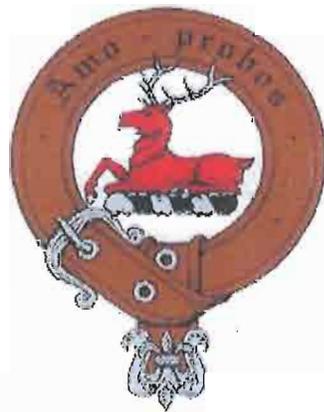
Contact Tom Hodges:  
[sijepuis@bellsouth.net](mailto:sijepuis@bellsouth.net)

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)



*Detective David Shroat (Ron's Partner), Ronald Heacock, Major Scott Bssinger, Sheriff Van Duncan, and Chief Deputy Don Revis.*

**Flowers of the Forest**, *continued from page 13*  
Andrews Society.

Later, he enjoyed writing and publishing four books that are currently available through Amazon.

Robert is predeceased by his parents and four siblings: Joseph, Roderick, Patricia and Helen, as well as wife Josephine Delores (McMahon), who was the mother of his four children. Robert is survived by wife Linda M. Dean; children Claire McMahon-Thomas, Robert James Thomas, Joanne Gaskin, and Susan Nickel-Gregory; siblings Frederick, Barbara Andrews, and Ann Esposito-Vivona; grandchildren Elizabeth, Connor, Allison, and Emily; and two great-grandchildren.



Funeral mass was at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Tallahassee, Thursday, September 17. Interment was at Barrancas National Cemetery, located on Naval Air Station Pensacola, in close proximity to his beloved Naval Aviation Museum.

A memorial mass in New York will be scheduled. Donations may be sent to the Catholic Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee, marked for "Seminarian Emergency Fund", PO Drawer 13284, Pensacola, FL 32591-3284. Condolences may be sent to PO Box 13567, Tallahassee, FL 32317-3567.

# Clan Wallace Society Member Ronald Heacock Honored

**John R. Wallace** writing in *The Guardian*, publication of the Clan Wallace Society. For more information, contact: Charles M. Wallace, 4634 N. Beechwood Drive, Macon, GA 31210-2304. Call: 478-471-7489. Visit: [membership@clanwallace.org](mailto:membership@clanwallace.org)

In early August 2014, Buncombe County, North Carolina, Sheriff's Detective Ronald Heacock and his partner, while on patrol, came upon an Interstate accident involving a couple of trucks and several cars.

After calling in the incident to get assistance, they assessed the situation and noted that persons were trapped in two trucks and one of the trucks was on fire.

The officers moved to that vehicle and attempted to get the man out and free of the fire.

Once the door was opened, Ron, on his own, entered the burning truck to free the driver's legs, which were jammed under the steering wheel and dashboard while others on the scene attempted to put out the fire.

Detective Heacock was successful and the man, whose life was in great peril as the truck was close to exploding, was moved to safety.

Due to Detective Heacock's personal heroic actions and at the risk of his own safety and life, the man was saved.

In conjunction with his Retirement Ceremony and Banquet held on 26 September 2014, Detective Heacock was awarded "The Law Enforcement Life Saving Award with Honors," the Department's highest life saving citation.

Ron's Partner, Detective David Shroat, was also decorated during the ceremony.

The receipt of this major award by Council and Board Member Ronald Heacock is considered to be exceptional in Merit and of noteworthy Honor and the President and Members of the Clan Wallace Society (CWS) Board congratulate Ronald Heacock on this occasion.

Well done, Ron. Pro Libertate



## 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

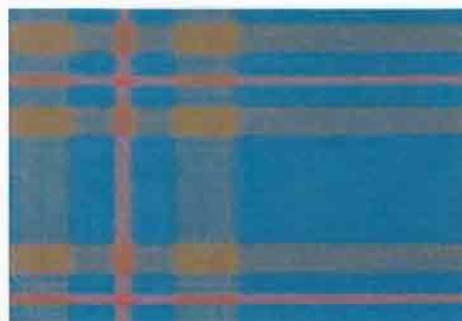
*Email: [dublincollen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dublincollen@sbcglobal.net) or write*

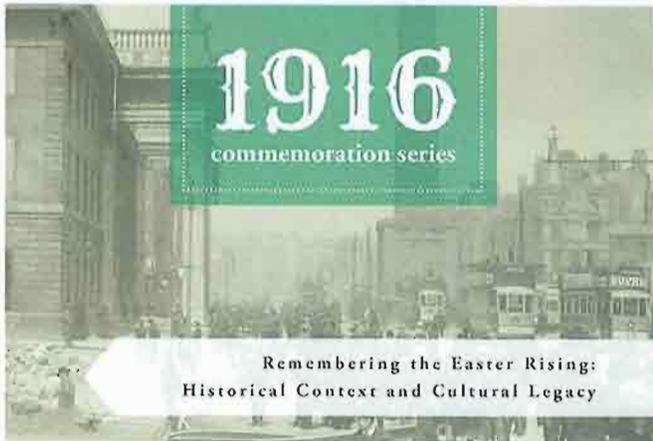
2984 Siskiyou Boulevard

Medford, OR 97504

*(Fortiter Et Recte)*

*Boldly and Rightly*





## Join us for a year of remembrance...

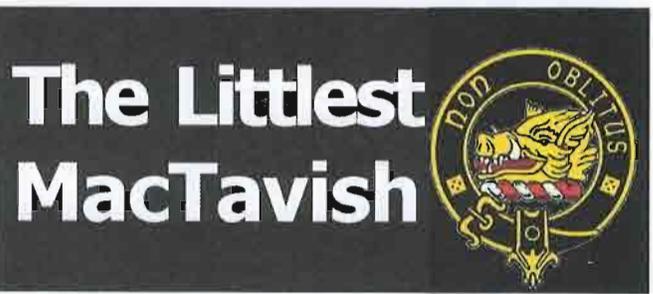
Join us for a year of remembrance as we approach the Centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising, a key moment on Ireland's path to Independence.

The Commemoration Series programming will examine the causes and aftermath of the Easter Rising through: nationally respected guest lectures examining the history and cultural legacy, book discussions encouraging close examination of the causes, a multi-media presentation, film series, and a world class exhibit providing a visual history of the Rising and its role in the development of modern Ireland.



The Series is being co-sponsored by the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the Consulate General of Ireland, San Francisco.

For more information on the 1916 Commemoration Series please visit <http://www.azirishlibrary.org/1916-commemoration-series/>



Congratulations to John & Jan Thompson who are the proud grandparents of Carlana O. Luciano, born May 9th.

With thanks to the Clan MacTavish publication, *Non Oblitus*. Contact [mstephenson@fuse.net](mailto:mstephenson@fuse.net) to learn more about Clan MacTavish.

### Message from Chief Steven MacTavish of Dunardry

We are very pleased to announce that from this point forward, we will no longer use the terms "Clan MacTavish USA", or "Clan MacTavish International". Henceforth, we will simply be, Clan MacTavish. This simple change reflects the fact that we are one Clan and one family, regardless of where we live.

# Clan MacCord Society

Invites for membership all spelling variations and descendants of McCord (a)(e)(y).

Also McCourt, McChord, McCoard, Cord(e), McCart, McCort, Cort(e)(s) and Flynn, McFettridge and Kane.

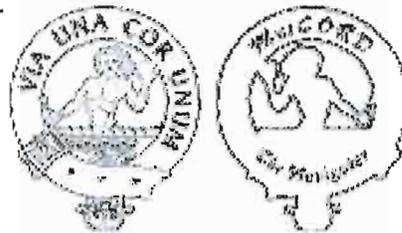
**Harlan D. McCord**

President/Chief

4403 Vickery Ave East  
Tacoma, WA 98443-2016

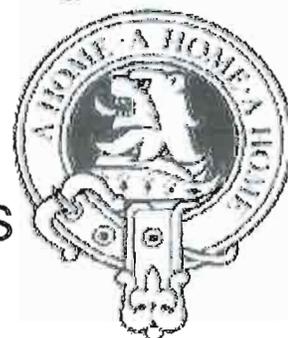
Email:

cmccord1234@msn.com



# Clan Home Society (International)

Cordially invites membership inquiries  
worldwide from all HOME, HUME & SEPTS



Information about  
The Clan Home Air Force,  
contact [aeaton@cfl.rr.com](mailto:aeaton@cfl.rr.com)



For information and application, write to:  
**Camille Simmons, President**  
1205 Avery Way  
Kernersville, NC 27284  
[cbsimmons@earthlink.net](mailto:cbsimmons@earthlink.net)

## The National Wallace Monument Marks Braveheart 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The National Wallace Monument in Stirling, one of Scotland's top tourist attractions, marked the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Braveheart's release with a celebratory evening on 3<sup>rd</sup> September including a screening of the Academy Award winning film at the Macrobert Arts Centre.

A recent survey undertaken by Stirling District Tourism found that 35% of participants identified Braveheart as an influence on their decision to visit the Monument.

*Continued on page 21*



VIKING EXPLORER, THORBOB, RETURNS HOME AFTER DISCOVERING TEXAS.

### Harp competition, *continued from page 11*

support the playing of nylon, gut, wire strung, levered and unlevered harps.

#### About the Clan Currie Society

The Clan Currie Society, an American-based, international, non-profit cultural and educational organization, is the preeminent Scottish-American cultural society in preserving and promoting Highland heritage through a growing scholarship program and at Scottish Games and festivals, as well as community groups and classrooms.

The Society has over 3,000 members worldwide that gather via the Society's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ClanCurrieSociety](http://www.facebook.com/ClanCurrieSociety)) and website ([www.clancurrie.org](http://www.clancurrie.org)) and at special events and clan gatherings.

The Society was originally formed in Glasgow,



The Clan Currie Society

Scotland in 1959 to further the knowledge and appreciation of the MacMhuirich (pronounced *MacVurich*) bardic dynasty. The MacMhuirichs served for over 700 years as professional poets to the Lords of the Isles and later to the MacDonalDs of Clanranald among other prominent Highland clans and families. *The Red Book of Clanranald*, one of Gaelic Scotland's literary treasures, was penned by successive generations of the MacMhuirich family.

Today, the organization is a respected producer of outstanding programs and events to honor Scotland's rich culture and ancestry.

The Society's signature events include The Pipes of Christmas ([www.pipesofchristmas.com](http://www.pipesofchristmas.com)) – a musical celebration of Christmas performed on bagpipes and brass, harp and fiddle, and organ – and the annual observance of Tartan Day on Ellis Island ([www.tartandayonellisland.com](http://www.tartandayonellisland.com)), the largest Tartan Day event in the world.

The Society's first music CD, *The Best of the Pipes of Christmas*, features several clarsach selections featuring Gaelic Mod champion harper, Jennifer Port of Golspie, Scotland.



# Clan Forrester

## Society

*Come - join the Forresters*

Membership is available for all spelling variations of Forrester: Forrester, Forester, Forrister, Forister, Forest, Forrest, Foster, Carstarphen.

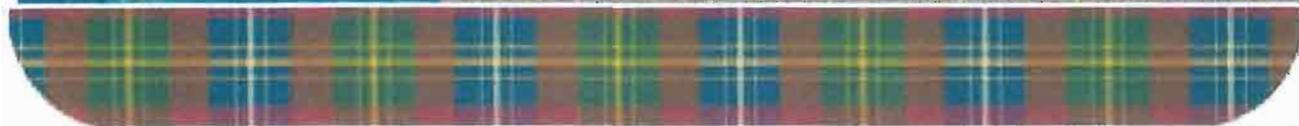


Contact: **Ben Forrester**,  
Membership Chairman  
1034 Blue Heron Drive  
Commerce, GA 30529  
Phone: 706-335-7688  
Email: [benbf@windstream.net](mailto:benbf@windstream.net)



### FOSTER SURNAME DNA Project

• Genealogy Research on Foster / Forster / Forrester / Forester / Foerster / Forestier / Forstler / Forrister / Vorster / Voster Families



# Flowers of the Forest



Dame **Helen Elizabeth Graham Eisenhower**, DCTJ (May 7, 1936 - September 17, 2015) passed away on Thursday. She was cremated and there will be no public service.

Helen was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania but has been a long time resident of Cathedral City, California.

She was employed by the U.S. Postal Service and retired in 1990.

Helen is survived by three children Beth-Ann, Brenda and William Jr.; nine grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Bill and Helen would have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on 20 September.

Helen has been a member of the Scottish Knights Templars, Priory of Robert the Bruce since 1995. She served as the Priory Secretary for many years. She was a member of D.A.R., D.B.E. and Eastern Star. Helen became a member of the Clan Graham Society in 1990.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Helen's memory may be made to Disabled Veterans. Condolences may be sent to: The Helen E. Eisenhower family, 34785 Calle Sestao, Cathedral City, CA 92234-7180.



Clay Hay reports that Joan Johnson's husband, **Ken Johnson**, passed away in February of this year.

Ken was 94 and in poor health. He passed away at home in the Forester's Cottage at Delgatie Castle where Joan is the manager and head Trustee.

Ken was in Her Majesty's Royal Air Force in World War II. Ken went up in a plane not too many years ago and proved he could still fly and land a plane without a problem.

Ken worked at Delgatie, both in the castle and in the gardens. His latest project was painting all of the different Clan Hay Shields on the ceiling of the newly refinished conference room, The Yester Room.

Delgatie will not be the same without Ken's smiling face greeting everyone. He will be missed by all.

Long time Armstrong Clan Society member and mother of Melissa Pearson Lutenbacher, **Mary Grace Armstrong Adams**, passed away last March 26. Mary Grace was born in Cherokee County, Alabama in 1928.

Daughter of Thomas and Mary Livingston Armstrong, she lived in Cedar Bluff, Alabama.

She began playing piano and organ at age 10 in her church.

Mary Grace was very proud of her Scottish heritage and loved attending the Stone Mountain Games.

Memorials may be made to the Armstrong Scholarship Fund at Judson College.

## Celebrating Braveheart's Twentieth Anniversary, *continued from page 19*

Ken Thomson from Stirling District Tourism added: "When Braveheart was first released in 1995 it was one of the highest grossing films of the year, and, according to research at the time, was responsible for around 15% of visits

from international tourists to Stirling.

Guests on the evening included: Stirling Provost Mike Robbins, Chinese Consul-General Pan Xinchun and Stirling District Tourism Board Directors

# The 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.

**Dorna Comp, president**  
103 Sumners Alley  
Summerville, SC 29485  
(dkc1027@yahoo.com)



The Arms of Danus George Moncreiff  
Skene of Skene, Chief of the Name and Arms  
of Skene

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by Duncan MacPhail

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or a USPS Money Order or Check

**\$25.00 includes s/h**

from Beth Gay-Freeman

688 Camp Yonah Road, Clarkesville, GA 30523

# Clan Davidson postcard ca 1950s



A few months ago, Darwin Davidson, resident of Deer Isle Maine, former Clan Davidson Society-USA Regional Director, photographer par excellence, and bluegrass musician of note, celebrated his birthday (he won't say which one, but I know it's a LOT closer to 100 than it is to 50).

One of the gifts bestowed on him by his daughter, Melissa was a Scottish Postcard, possibly circa the mid-50s.

While the Arms depicted on this post card are very similar to the current Arms of the Chief of Clan Davidson, they are not the Arms of the Davidson Clan Chief.

The big give-away is the (Clan) Crest, the very topmost portion of the Arms depicting a right hand holding a heart, plus the inclusion of the verbiage "Badge – Boxwood", a reference to the Plant Badge of the Arms' owner.

As you can see from the image to the right, the Crest of the current Chief of Clan Davidson is a stag in profile. Although not a part of the Chief's crest, per se, the (Plant) Badge of Clan Davidson is Red Whortleberry. The current Arms of the Chief (as matriculated by Scotland's Lyon Court in 1997) is quite different from those of the last Clan Chief, Duncan, Vith of Tulloch (below, right), when they were matriculated through the Lyon Court in 1906. The inclusion of the wolf's head and the quartering indicated that the Arms are a combination of the Davidson Arms and the Arms of Bayne, the former owners of Tulloch Castle and lands in the 18th C. This was changed to the current version by the Lyon Court in 1997 due to Duncan's loss of Tulloch Castle upon his death in 1917 leaving no surviving heirs or other family members interested in assuming the role as Clan Chief.



Our Chief, today, is Grant Guthrie Davidson, 3rd of Davidston (and not Tulloch, as in earlier times).

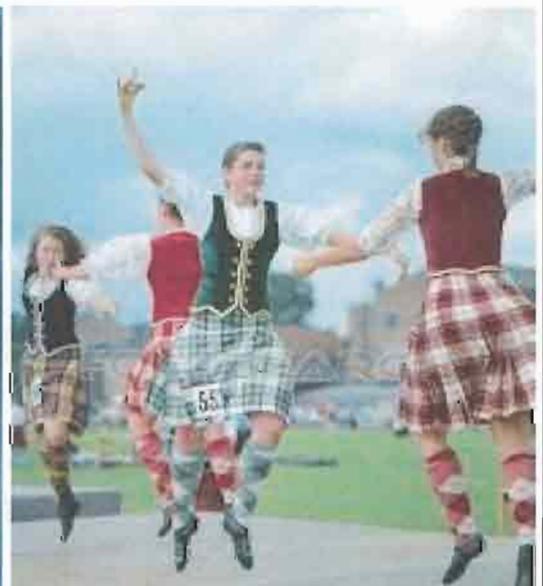
There are several Davidson Family arms that might be the source of the particular one on the post card – Davidson of Balgray or Davidson of Cairnbrogie, for example, both to be found in the 17th C.

Nevertheless, Melissa's gift to her Dad on the occasion of his birthday was a very nice addition to his collection of Davidson memorabilia collected by Darwin over the many (very many) years he's been involved with the Clan Davidson Society USA. Happy birthday, Darwin!

For more information about the modern day Clan Davidson, consider acquiring a copy of the book published by Clan Davidson Society USA several years ago, *Clan Davidson – History, Symbols, Septs, Tartans, Clan Organizations & More*. It's both well researched and inexpensive, and available from any Highland Games where we have a clan tent or by contacting me at [sennachie@earthlink.net](mailto:sennachie@earthlink.net).

# Glencoe School of Scottish Highland Dance

770-934-3016 - Atlanta, GA area  
glencoehighlanddancing@yahoo.com



*Mary Wilson Recknagel*

BATD Fellow Highland & Scottish Nationals  
SOBHD Adjudicator

# Once lost 685-year-old tomb of King Robert the Bruce can be seen again!



A new technology developed in the past 50 years is helping historians recreate damaged and broken artifacts. 3D printing, or “additive manufacturing” (AM), is a process that allows computer controlled devices to lay down successive layers of a material to create a 3D model of almost any shape or geometry.

In the past few years, 3D printing has been used in museum and historical institutions to make replica “backup” artifacts with the feel of the original that patrons can touch - thereby protecting the original artifacts. Replicas can also be sent to other institutions for display or study.

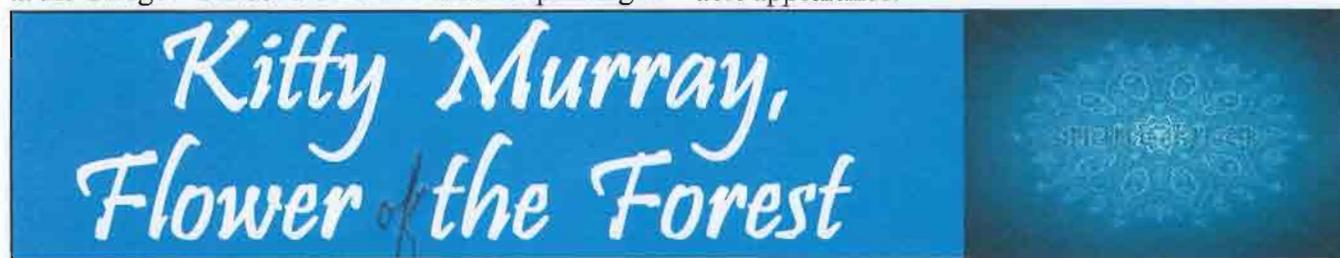
Historic Scotland, in collaboration with colleagues at the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland and the Digital Design Studio at the Glasgow School of Art have used 3D printing to

replicate the pieces of a 685 year old artifact relevant to Scottish history and using those pieces, recreate the lost tomb of King Robert the Bruce who ruled Scotland from 1306 until his death in 1329.

King Robert was buried in Dunfermline Abbey, his grave marked by an elaborate white marble monument imported from Paris. Destroyed in 1560 during the Reformation and lost in the turmoil of the post-Reformation era, fragments of carved and gilded stone found in 1818 made their way to museum collections at the National Museum of Scotland, the Hunterian Museum, Dunfermline Museum and Abbotsford House. At least one fragment is said to have fallen into the hands of Sir Walter Scott. Using these fragments, researchers decided to reconstruct the famous tomb, and bring it back to life via 3D printing technology.

The fragments were scanned at a very high resolution using highly accurate laser-aligned digital photographic scanners. Based on historical information as well as drawings from other comparative tombs, the fragment scans were then used to create a virtual reconstruction of the tomb.

Historic Scotland and the Digital Design Studio used the scanned data to create life-sized 3-D replica pieces that were assembled to recreate the tomb’s probable appearance.



The Murray Clan Society of North America is saddened to announce the death of **Kitty Murray** who passed away on 24<sup>th</sup> January of this year.

She suffered a long illness braely borne over many years. She died peacefully and happily at home on Gallow Hill, Peebles, Scotland, surrounded by her loving family at age 87 years.

Kitty was the beloved wife of Archibald “Archie” Russell Murray, United Kingdom Liaison to the Murray Clan Society of North America, and the late Ronald Webber.

She was the much loved mum of Michael and Peter, loving gramma of Simon, Daniel, Samantha and Sabrina, great gramma to James and Jack, a dear mother-in-law to Kathleen and Jill and a dearly loved sister of Alice Dobson.

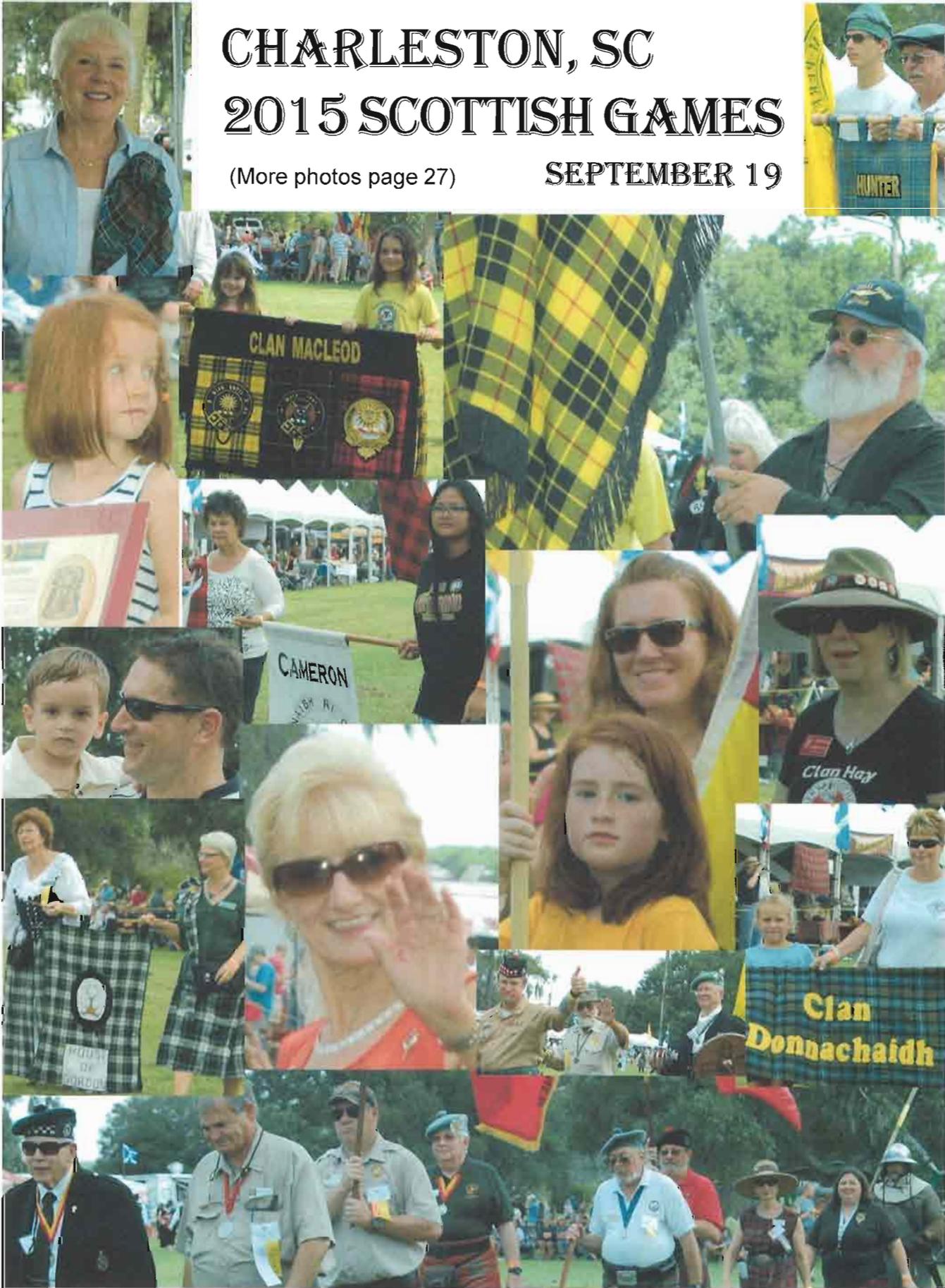
A service of thanksgiving was held last February at St. Andrews Leckie Memorial Church in Peebles, with interment afterwards at Peebles Cemetery.

Condolences and expressions of sorrow to Archie and family. Kitty will be missed by all of us whose lives she touched.

# CHARLESTON, SC 2015 SCOTTISH GAMES

(More photos page 27)

SEPTEMBER 19





# CHARLESTON, SC 2015 SCOTTISH GAMES

(More photos page 29)

SEPTEMBER 19



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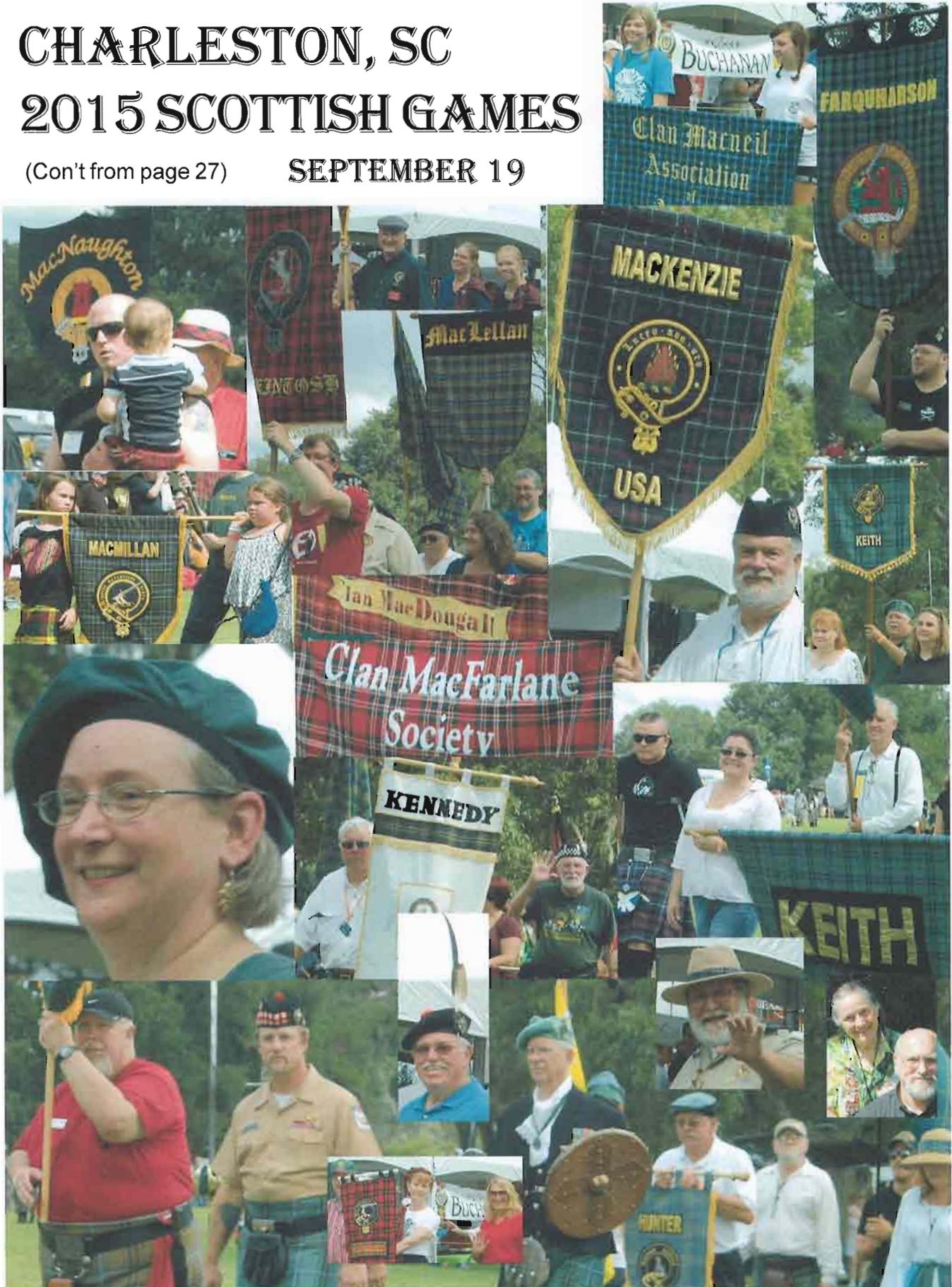
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# CHARLESTON, SC 2015 SCOTTISH GAMES

(Con't from page 27)

SEPTEMBER 19



# Clan Home USA elects new officers at Grandfather Mountain AGM 2015

New officers were elected at the 2015 Clan Home USA Annual Meeting held at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in July.

Officers are: President Rodney Green, Vice President Hallie Bouchard, Secretary Camille Simmons, Treasurer David Simmons, Historian Katherine Michalowicz and Newsletter Editor Anne Johnson.

This year, the Clan Home USA did have a tent at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October.

At Grandfather Mountain, Clan Home USA was joined, for the first time, by Clan Home International.



**Some of Scotland's most iconic heritage sites, including Dunfermline and Arbroath abbeys are now available to explore online - FREE.**

Google Street View has launched a new collection of historic Scottish sites, allowing people to take a virtual tour around a number of castles, forts and abbeys without ever leaving their homes.

The project, completed in conjunction with Historic Scotland, captured 16 landmarks covering the length and breadth of Scotland.

Sites featured range from Stirling Castle, with its magnificent renaissance palace, to Dunfermline Abbey and Palace, the final resting place of many Scots kings and queens.

Other participating sites include Urquhart Castle on the banks of Loch Ness and Caerlaverock Castle in Dumfries and Galloway.

The software allows people across the world to take in 360 degree views of the buildings via their computers, tablets or smart phones.

Stephen Duncan, director of commercial and tourism with Historic Scotland said: "We are pleased to have partnered with Google Street View to work on this new collection which showcases online a number of our prop-



erties from across Scotland.

"This technology will allow visitors, no matter where they are in the world, to get a taste of several of our properties in a new way. We hope that it will encourage them to visit and further their discovery of these magnificent historic sites and properties in person."

The sites were photographed in July of this year.

With thanks to *The Armstrong Chronicles*, publication of the Armstrong Clan Society. For more information, write: [ACS.Chronicles@gmail.com](mailto:ACS.Chronicles@gmail.com)