

Hi, All! I found one of my Microsoft Word discs, complete with all the numbers, etc. It's MINE and all legal, so I hope I can make decent looking pages for you....not promising they will be pretty – but the best I can do for now!

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## From the Clan Stewart Society in America newsletter...

**Congratulations** to Scott and Kimberly Stuart from Florida. The couple renewed their wedding vows at the recent Stone Mountain Highland Games Chapel during our CSSA AGM weekend.

**Brig. General T.L. Futch was inducted into the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Hall of Fame** in recognition of his WWI and WWII service. His son, Calhoun Scott attended the ceremonies on September 2.

**A new clan has arrived!** It's Clan Claus, founded by Santa Kona, has been making appearances at games in Pennsylvania, New York and Ohio...decorating their tent with all things Santa! They wear their patented Claus tartan and all seem to have lovely white beards.

They have sleighs, jingle bells and even a motto – “Believe” on display.

At one games, a Santa with a beautiful tenor voice, sang a wonderful birthday song to CSSA's own Mouse Man Dave.

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## Flowers of the Forest

Life Member of the Clan Stewart Society in America, **Ms. Sally Stewart Shumaker** passed away last September 30. She was a dear friend of many in Clan Stewart and assisted at a lot of events in Northern California and Nevada.

Her knowledge of Scottish, Irish and English history and genealogy helped lots of people when they visited the CSSA tent with questions.

**Nell (Mrs. Arthur) Smith** died recently. Nell and Arthur were among our very first Clan Shaw members holding membership number 008. After the society was founded by the organizing committee in August of 1983 the four organizing members were joined by one member in Baltimore, one in Arlington and one in Texas...and then Nell and Arthur.

They were very active members of the society and were very supportive. They served as long-time conveners for Mississippi and attended numerous games and festivals. Nell served as a society trustee for a number of years, doing so until her death.

**Elizabeth Anne Carr Haring Blair**, Anne Blair, age 95, of Mtn. Brook, passed peacefully Saturday, August 25, 2012 at home.

Anne was born December 6, 1916, in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Carlyle R., and Bernice P. Carr. She graduated Scarborough High School, Tarrytown, New York; and attended Katharine Gibbs Fine Arts School 2 year secretarial program, New York City.

Anne married Graham Haring, June 23, 1940, and was widowed with 2 young children in 1954, in Cleveland, Ohio.

She relocated to Scottsdale, Arizona to be near her elderly parents, where she lived until marrying (the late) Harrison W. Blair on March 18, 1967, she then moved to Birmingham.

Together they enjoyed volunteering with Alabama Symphony Orchestra, traveling the world; she also enjoyed working at the information booth of Birmingham Museum of Art.

Mrs. Blair loved animals, enjoyed riding horses, and particularly her days spent at Patchwork Farms with her friends and her beloved horse Jester.

The family wishes to thank Jacqueline Cox and Eula Struggs for their extraordinary care, and trusted friendship.

Mrs. Blair is survived by her daughters, Pamela (Robert) Arthur and Carrlyn Clay; 3 grandchildren: Wendy (Tom) Julian, Blaine (Nicolle) Pitkin, Justin Bates and the late Cody Bates who preceded her in death.

She has 5 great-grandchildren, Zachary and Alexander Julian, Ronnie and Donnie Pitkin, and Jordan Bates also Mel Robinson a dear and beloved friend to Anne and family.

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**The Perrott Society** (any spelling) has a new address: 11 Norman Drive, Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6FP.

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## Unique Scots Dialect Now Extinct with the death of Bobby Hogg

...with thanks to Celtic Seasons, from the Stream of Celtic Consciousness – Rich and Rita Shader, 2593 Chapparral Drive, Melbourne, FL 32934

Bobby Hogg, the last native speaker of a dialect originating from a remote fishing village in northern Scotland, has died – and so has the dialect he spoke.

The death of the 92 year-old retired engineer means that the Scots dialect known as “Cromarty Fisherfolk” is now consigned to a collection of brief, distorted audio clips.

“It is the first unique dialect to be lost in Scotland,” says Robert Millar, a reader in linguistics at the School of Language and Literature at Aberdeen University.

“Usually minority dialects end up blending in with standard English to form a hybrid. However, this is a completely distinct dialect which has become extinct,” he said. “Cromarty fisherfolk appears to be the only descendant from the Germanic linguistic world in which no “wh” pronunciation existed.” He continued, “What would become “at” and “where” would just be “ere.” It was also the Scots language’s only dialect that dropped the “H” aspiration.”

“The loss of Cromarty is symptomatic of a greater, general decline in the use of the Scots language,” according to Director of Scottish Language Dictionaries, Chris Robinson. “This should be a wake up call to save other struggling dialects.”

Ten miles down the coast from Cromarty is Avoch, another sleepy fishing village with the closest surviving dialect to Cromarty fisherfolk, one that may also be endangered, according to Robinson.

The dialect of the peoples who originally resided on the shores of Cromarty – which lies on the tip of the Black Isle peninsula, a four-hour drive north of Edinburgh – was directly linked to their traditional fishing methods. However, during the industrialization of fishing in the 1950s, established working methods were lost and the connection between the way of life and the dialect eroded. In fewer than 30 years, much of the dialect became obsolete.

This decline in Scots language represents a wider global trend.

There are over 6,000 languages in the world and they are estimated to disappear at a rate of one every two weeks. Some 96% of the world’s population speak just 4% of the world’s languages.

So, why mourn the loss of a language? People tend to abandon their native languages for the dominant one in their areas. They want modern conveniences and their children to have decent jobs. All of this requires being able to speak in the dominant language. There is then little use in preserving their native tongue. The loss of a language often results in the loss of the stories that were told in that language and in the cultural knowledge they contained – even the loss of medical know-how.

Yet, there are signs of improvement for the state of Scots minority dialects. More Scots books, especially children’s books are being published than ever before. The Scottish government has provided funding for the Scottish Language Dictionaries, which has also given the language a status boost. In 2002, the European Union Charter of Minority and Regional Languages recognized Scots, Gaelic and Welsh as languages separate from English.

Do you still speak your native tongue?

Mr. Shader said, “I used to speak Hungarian to my grandmother, but sadly, I only remember two phrases today.”

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## **Have you ever been to a “hen night”?**

Today, we still hear a girl’s night out referred to as a “hen night” in America, but the term originally came from Scotland.

In Scotland, a gathering of womenfolk for a night out before a wedding was called “a hen night” because the women would congregate in the home of the bride to pluck hens which would be prepared for the imminent wedding feast.

## **Do you know anyone with a “second sight?”**

The “second sight” possessed by the Highlanders in Scotland is actually a foreknowledge of future events. I believe (not me, but the person who wrote this – unknown here) they possess this gift because they don’t wear trousers. Ah hah! This from G.C. Lichtenberg, (1742-1799) who was a German physicist and philosopher.