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deadline is January 15th

May 2012 Issue
deadline is April 15th

August 2012 Issue
deadline is July 15th

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Electronic file formats accepted are
Microsoft Word documents
Adobe Acrobat. Any photo images,
JPG, TIFF, GIF

*Any questions please
feel free to call Heather
at 802-485-5541*

www.clanbaird.net

Check us out on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/ClanBaird

**Finding Your
Family Roots**

If you have an interest in finding your relatives, remember Clan Baird has a genealogist on staff. Please email or call Ronda and she will be happy to assist you.

Genealogist
Ronda E. West
dragonmamma35@yahoo.com
316-721-2644

We also have other members of Clan Baird who are very knowledgeable in the history of Baird. Please email or call Heather at hsnyder65@yahoo.com 802-485-5541 for more information.



Wrex Diem
Clan Baird Society Worldwide
2200 S. Osseo Road
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

A Baird Family History, Past to Present

Submitted by Jack Alexander Baird, Lincolnshire, England

How the principal Baird family living in Aberdeenshire became linked with the title or estates of Urie, Keith, Kintore, Stonehaven, Rickarton and Inverurie

Reminders of 1997

During 1997 when Dale Baird was President of The Clan Baird Society he arranged a coach tour for a group of American Members to visit Baird Lands in the North of Scotland. For part of the tour the group stayed in the impressive "Ardoe House Hotel" on the bank of the River Dee near Aberdeen. For this part of the tour the group was joined by British Members, Ross and Doreen Baird who live in Aberdeen, Professor Kenneth Dalziel Baird who lives in Edinburgh, Jack and Margaret Baird who live near Lincoln and their daughter Joanne, her husband and young Harriett [a few months old] who live in Essex.

Whilst staying near Aberdeen a most memorable part of the tour was when the whole group was invited to visit Rickarton House and the Rickarton Estate owned by John and Lady Diana Holman. Diana, baptised Diana Elizabeth Victoria Sydney Baird was born on the estate. After her Father, James Ian Baird became the 2nd Viscount Stonehaven in 1941 her title became "The Hon. Diana Baird" until she married John Francis Holman in 1957 when her title changed to "The Hon. Mrs.

Holman". This was before, at the request of the Lord Lyon in 1974, her Father changed his family name to Keith, became James Ian Keith, the 12th Earl of Kintore when Diana's title became Lady Diana Holman. After the death of her Father in 1989, Diana inherited the estate. At Rickarton the group also met John and Diana's son Richard Holman who held the title "of Ury and Lochwood", his wife Polly and young Angus John [a few months old]. The group was also taken to see the derelict Ury mansion and estate that at one time had been owned by the Baird family.

Throughout this article either the title "Urie" or "Ury" is used to refer to the same estate. "Urie" is the old spelling with "Ury" being used more since about 1870.

Whilst the group was in this area the members also attended the small but interesting Stonehaven Highland Games where they met Diana's Brother Michael. Like his Father James Ian Keith, Michael had changed his family name to Keith at the request of the Lord Lyon and had become the 13th Earl of Kintore in 1989 on the death of his Father. He was wearing the bonnet and feathers of Chief of Clan Keith. [When Dale and I met Michael years before 1997, he and his wife Mary were living in a small part of the huge "Keith

Hall" on the Keith Estate.] The park on which these Highland Games were held in Stonehaven had been owned previously by the Baird family, who gave it to the town and it is now known as Baird Park.



Dale Baird and Lady Diana Holman in front of Rickarton House

Why This Article Is Being Written

I think that many will appreciate why there was confusion within the American Group about Scottish titles during the Scottish Tour in 1997, a confusion that was certainly not limited to the Americans. Indeed fourteen years later I have to admit that despite various

Continued on page one



Ceud Mìle Fàilte!
(100,000 Welcomes)

*We welcome to our
Clan the following:*

Roger Baird
Owens Cross Roads, Alabama

Karen Baird Vierra
Arroyo Grand, CA

Susan Baird Bortz
Arnold, CA

Billy W. Baird
Pineville, KY

And welcome back from the 80's
Robert Franklin Beard III
Culpeper, VA



Glen Carin Engraving

We engrave and supply crystal and glassware with clan crests ETC and ship worldwide. Please visit our websites for products and information.
www.glencairn.co.uk
www.whiskyglass.com

Baird Family Past to Present continued...

occasional explanations by Ross, Kenneth and others, I was still confused. Therefore and now that Heather Snyder is making such a splendid job of reviving "The Gryphon", I suggested to Lady Diana and John Holman that writing an article to clarify the situation would be a worthwhile exercise. Diana and John agreed and have been a great help in providing family information, answering my queries and checking my drafts, and Ross Baird has also been a great help. Therefore, although my name is given above, please do not regard me as any more than a willing writer of the various drafts.

To explain how various titles came about, in the following section that covers "The Period From 1799 until 1997" it was necessary to start way back with the Bairds of Gartsherrie. Then, for simplicity I pause as the situation was in 1997 before introducing an "Update Since 1997". This update includes a piece of light relief with photographs of Angus and Harriett, before finishing with a guide to trace the places mentioned in the article. I hope that I have not used too much duplication but what duplication there is has helped me to understand what I was writing.

**The Period From
1799 until 1997**

The Bairds of Gartsherrie were "Iron and Steel Masters" who became extremely rich. Many books and articles have been written about them, however, the main object now is to explain the link with Lady Diana's family.

Alexander Baird was born at Kirkwood in 1799, the son of Alexander Baird of Gartsherrie (b 1765). Alexander and his four brothers, William, John, Robert and George formed the partnership of "William Baird and Company" in 1830 when they were given all their father's coal and ironstone leases and feus. They went on to build-up the company into a very successful iron and steel business. One notable example of the wealth that was created is that their brother James who was born in 1802 founded "The Baird Trust" in 1873 with a sum of £500,000 with the object of helping The Church of Scotland. The Trust still exists and is active. In 1939 it was re-established by an Act of Parliament as a charitable company limited by guarantee and in 2006, according to website www.bairdtrust.org.uk/ its value was over £8 million.

In 1854 Alexander Baird bought the estate of Urie adjoining Rickarton [that is inland from Stonehaven]. Alexander never married and died in 1862 leaving a will in which he directed his trustees to execute a Deed of Entail of the estate of Urie in favour of his brother John and a series of heirs who were required to bear the name and arms of Baird of Urie. He directed that a large portion of the remainder of his estate was to be invested in the purchase of land also to be entailed on his brother John and the same series of heirs. In fulfilment of this direction his trustees bought the adjoining estate of Rickarton in 1869, when it came up for sale on the death of William Rickart. Under the entail the estates of Urie and Rickarton were inherited by his nephew also named Alexander [who was born in 1849 and in 1873 married The Honourable Annette Maria Palk, eldest daughter



Continued on page three



Support Scottish Heritage, and Support Your Clan

Dear Clansman,

I am writing to you as the Director of the Scottish Tartans Museum in Franklin, NC. I encourage you to take a few minutes to look over our web site at www.scottishtartans.org and learn what we are all about. As the only heritage center devoted to the history and traditions of tartan and Highland dress outwith Scotland, we receive many requests for information each day from all across the United States, and even abroad.

Our museum is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, governed by a volunteer Board of Directors, and staffed by three part-time employees and a number of dedicated volunteers.

Sadly, each year since 2008 we have seen a decrease in revenue from our gift shop. People are today having to be very judicious as to where and how they spend their money. Unfortunately this is having a negative impact upon our museum. We are facing some very difficult financial times in the short-term. In order to ensure the long-term survival of our unique museum, we absolutely need the help of the Scottish-American community.

There are **TWO** important ways that your clan society can help us, both of which will also benefit your clan organization. It is my sincere hope that your clan society will be a partner with us in making sure this unique cultural treasure remains viable through this recession.

ONE: Become an Affiliate Member and earn money for your society from our gift shop!

We are very excited about our new affiliate member plan. Here's how it works. First, your clan society or other nonprofit heritage organi-

zation needs to join the Scottish Tartans Museum as an Affiliate Member. You can read more about our membership program and download an application on our web site:

http://www.scottishtartans.org/clan_membership.html

Once you are signed up as an Affiliate Member, the next step will be to encourage as many people as you can to purchase items through our gift shop. Your society will receive 5% of their order total as a donation. It's as simple as that! We have detailed instructions on our web site telling them just what they need to do. And the buyer does not even need to be a paid member of your organization. You can tell your neighbors, parents, siblings and friends to shop with the Scottish Tartans Museum and your society will still benefit.

If only a few people order kilt outfits, that covers the cost of the Affiliate Membership, and any purchases beyond that will be extra income for your society. The beauty of this program is that it benefits all parties. By encouraging your members, family and friends to shop with the Scottish Tartans Museum, you are helping to ensure our long-term survival. And the more sales you generate, the larger a donation your society receives, helping your society out in these tough times, as well.

TWO: Clan & Society T-Shirts (another money maker for your society!)

Some time ago our museum acquired a garment printer that allows us to print t-shirts for our gift shop in house. We would love to be able to provide this service to your clan society, as well. Simply provide the artwork you would like on your t-shirt, and we will print them for you, supplying them to your society at wholesale prices.

Because we print these ourselves, you won't have to worry about minimum orders or expensive set-up fees. We can even handle order fulfillment for your

group, printing the shirts on demand for your members. You can add whatever mark-up you like to earn money for your clan society.

To get more information about our t-shirt printing, including wholesale prices and artwork specs, please contact my assistant Ronan MacGregor at tartans@scottishtartans.org or by phone at (828)524-7472.

If you would like more information about our Clan Affiliate Membership program, you may also contact Ronan or myself directly at this email address.

Aa' the best,

Matthew A. C. Newsome, GTS, FSA Scot
Director, Scottish Tartans Museum
86 E Main St
Franklin, NC 28734
www.scottishtartans.org
828-524-7472

Clan Baird Society Worldwide Financial Statement

Third Quarter FY 2011
01Jul - 30 Sep 2011

Income:	
Dues Received	\$200.00
Misc Income	
Donations	
Quartermaster Sales	
<hr/>	
Total Quarterly Income:	\$200.00
<hr/>	
Expense:	
Advertising	
President + Membership	\$(227.19)
Vice President	
Secretary	
Treasurer - New account checkbook	
Genealogy	
Gryphon	\$(316.80)
Games	\$(205.00)
Awards, Trophies and Donations	
Miscellaneous - Foreign deposit charges	
<hr/>	
Total Quarterly Expense:	\$(748.99)
<hr/>	
Quarterly Income:	\$200.00
<hr/>	
Quarterly Expense:	\$(748.99)
<hr/>	
Net Gain/Loss for Quarter:	\$(548.99)
<hr/>	
Total:	\$11334.29

Submitted by: Christopher W. Diem, former Treasurer
New Treasurer: Robert Beard, 16644 Valley Dr., Tampa, FL 33618



Event Highlights

North Alabama Scottish Festival

Submitted by, Mary Lackey

It was a beautiful cool "Scottish" day in Northeast Alabama on October 1st. Amid the brisk breezes coming off Lake Guntersville and with a view of the surrounding Appalachian foothills, approximately 1000 people attended the North Alabama Scottish Festival. The Honored Clan this year was Clan Montgomery with Lord Hugh Montgomerie, his wife Lady Carol and their children as honored guests. The festival is presented by Tennessee Valley Scottish Society (TVSS).

Amid the 17 clans, food and merchandise vendors, visitors were entertained by the Alabama Pipe and Drums; Hooley - a Birmingham based celtic group of musicians; Colin Grant Adams; and our own Richard Van Valkenburg, a longtime TVSS member.



This year we welcomed Abby Green, a Texas based celtic musician to our entertainment lineup. Trained border collies, and of course the highland games rounded out the day's festivities. This festival also includes a special activity for our furry four-legged friends. The Pet Parade is one

of the highlights of the afternoon complete with prizes including, Mary Queen of Scots award - Best Dressed; Rob Roy MacGregor Award - Best Celtic Dressed; Bonnie Prince Charlie Award - Prettiest; Robert the Bruce Award - Most Majestic; Loch Ness Monster Award - Biggest; Wee Dram of Whisky Award - Wee Beastie; and William Wallace Award - Fiercest.



St. Andrews Games August 6th

August 6th was St. Andrew's Games 162nd annual games. Many other games claim to be the oldest—but 162nd WOW!!!!

It was a very hot and dry day—so hot that the games committee decided to move the Parade of Tartans to an hour earlier. This left many Clans including the Bairds marching by themselves or with only a small group. We Bairds were only one—with a number showing up on time but "late".

The Clan Tent was visited by a number of non-member Bairds and of course they all were encouraged to join. No luck—so a follow-up letter was sent to each, again inviting each to join.

One of the highlights came when the United States Marine Corp showed up for the tug-of-war event Member Kim Jamieson grabbed my USMC flag and ran to the site waving the flag with great enthusiasm and encouragement.

Unfortunately they had to pull in the last round against a team of "heavy weights"—so they had to settle for second.

And—it is always nice to see the Grand Rapids Michigan Pipe Band parade around for they wear the Ancient Baird Tartan for their Kilts.

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

July 7th-10th - Linville, North Carolina

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games has a special spot in the hearts of all Bairds for it was there in 1972 that the organizational meeting for the Clan was held.

As your President, I was honored to host our Baird tent. And as an example of Bairds attending these games, as I was finishing the task of setting up on Friday morning, I turned around and 11 Bairds were standing there. What a way to start the morning off.

As the day progressed, I had a Master Sergeant of the NC Highway Patrol ask me about the young lady that was wandering about dressed like a fairy. I guess I look like a man of great knowledge—unfortunately I had no answer to his question.

Later, I ask the young lady, and her response was "I am a Mystical Scottish Woodland Fairy". "I go about sprinkling fairy dust on the wee ones". Of course, I could not pass up on the chance—so your President has been blessed with a wee bit of fairy dust.

Over the three days of events ranging from Scottish Athletic Events, True Track and Field Events Road Cycling, the Kilted Mile, a Marathon, and these events were for all—wee ones to adults. And let's not forget the assorted dancing, piping, drumming, bands and fiddles.

When one puts it all together—what you have is the renown Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.



Message from the President

Eureka! Here I am trying to get things together for the Stone Mountain Games and the AGM. When I have imputed this and send it to Heather—I will be on my way. The February Gryphon will contain the minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

I would like to take this moment to thank my son Christopher Diem for stepping up to the plate to fill the treasurer's spot during this time period.

We now welcome our new Clan Baird treasurer,

Robert G. Beard, Jr.
16644 Valley Drive
Tampa, FL, 33618
813-963-0251
beardrobert@msn.com

We would also like to welcome our new 2nd. vice president,

Edward Lacy Baird
1080 Lake Lane Drive
White Lake, MI 48386
248-698-3691
scottishfrog@comcast.net

We are again in the middle of a transition period. Any old forms with either John Barr or Christopher Diem as treasurer should now be destroyed.

Soon dues will be due and of course a reminder will be sent out by our secretary. Those of you who owe membership dues from 2010 should send \$40.00 to be current. Those of you who owe dues for 2011 should send \$20.00. Please send all checks to our new treasurer Robert Beard, with the checks made out to Clan Baird Society Worldwide, Inc.

Your membership is greatly appreciated. It supports our Gryphon newsletter, sponsorship of our Clan Tents at assorted games, supports our Scholarship Fund, and in general helps keep the Clan going with mailings to new members as well as current members.

Sometime in the near future, we will be implementing our "chain of communication". We are looking for suggestions, comments and thoughts about this process, so please contact Wrex with any thoughts. We have filled many of the Regional Commissioners and State Representative positions, but are still in need of nine volunteers.

- 1.Reg. Comm, Reg #2 serving 10 members.
- 2.State Rep. for CO, serving 9 members.
- 3.State Rep. for TX, serving 18 members.
- 4.State Rep for MI, serving 21 members.

Or

- Reg. Comm. Reg #7 serving 31 members.
- 5.Reg, Comm. Reg #9 serving 13 members.
- 6.Reg, Comm. Reg #10 serving 9 members.
- 7.State Rep for FL serving 13 members.
- 8.State Rep for GA serving 13 members.
- 9.State Rep for AL serving 13 members.

Soon we hope we will hear from the IRS regarding our 501 c 7. Once things are tidied up, we will be notifying all members of our new by-laws. These by-laws will be guiding us until such time as we amend them.

Lastly, we will be mailing to all, our new genealogical forms with high hopes members will use them to help rebuild our data base of Bairds, Beards, Barrs, etc. Yes, this will be a monumental task.

Yours Aye, with an early Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and may you have a WONDERFUL New Year.

Wrex R. Diem, President



Baird Tartans in tartan parade at the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



Continued from page one

of the 1st Baron Haldon]. Alexander was created a Baronet in 1897 and died on the 20th June 1920, when he was succeeded by his eldest son John Lawrence Baird who was Lady Diana's Grandfather.

John Lawrence had a distinguished parliamentary career and was created a Baron on becoming Governor General and Commander in Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1925. He served in this post until 1930 when he returned to the U.K. He was created 1st Viscount Stonehaven in 1938 and his wife became Viscountess Stonehaven. In 1905 he had married Lady Ethel Sydney Keith-Falconer, daughter of the 9th Earl of Kintore [Algernon Hawkins Thomond Keith-Falconer who died in

1930]. She was the sister of Arthur George Keith-Falconer who became the 10th Earl of Kintore and died without issue. [Indeed there is no evidence that he married.]

The fact that the 10th Earl of Kintore died without issue led to significant changes to the name and titles of members of the Baird Family. This is explained in the following paragraph that contains information that was prepared by John Holman and Lady Diana for this article. It is also important to understand that, by tradition the holder of the title of Earl of Kintore becomes Chief of Clan Keith. Also, by tradition the senior member of the Keith family had held the office of Earl Marischal until the office was forfeited by George Keith the 10th Earl Marischal in 1715 when he joined the Jacobite cause.

Baird to Keith and became James Ian Keith, 12th Earl of Kintore and Chief of Clan Keith. In 1935 he married Delia Loyd and they had three children, Diana, Michael and David. After the Second World War James Ian took the whole family to South Africa before moving back to Rickarton in 1952 before he and Delia moved to Keith Hall in 1973. In 1974 when their Father became the 12th Earl, Diana's title became Lady Diana Holman, Michael became Lord Inverurie and David became The Hon. David Baird. Diana and John Francis Holman were married in 1957, lived in Rickarton and had four children: Richard Ian, Edward Alexander, Georgina Mary and Emma Charlotte.



Harriett Amy Bartram-Baird, introduced to John and Lady Diana's Grandson, now "Angus John Holman-Baird" * * *

***** On a lighter note**

At the reception in 1997 at Rickarton, the Granddaughter of Jack and Margaret Baird, "Harriett Amy Bartram-Baird", was introduced to John and Lady Diana's Grandson, now "Angus John Holman-Baird" when both were only a few months old and were photographed together. As proud Grandparents we asked Editor Heather Snyder to include three photographs to show what else can happen since 1997.

The Earls of Kintore

In 1677 John Keith was elevated to the Peerage with the title of Earl of Kintore. In 1694 he obtained a regrant of his titles and estates, with remainder to the heir males of his body, whom failing, to the heir males of the body of his brother, The Earl Marischal, whom failing to the heirs general of his own body. The Earldom, with one exception between the

4th and 5th Earls, descended in direct line until the death of the 10th Earl, who had no children. The title then descended to his sister Ethel who was married to Alexander Baird, 1st Viscount Stonehaven. They had two sons and three daughters. She had been Lady Ethel Sydney Keith-Falkener but became the 11th Countess of Kintore in her own right. She was Diana's Grandmother and lived until the day after her 100th birthday.

After her death in 1974, her elder son James Ian Baird [Father of Lady Diana and usually known as Ian], at the request of The Lord Lyon changed his surname from



Harriett Amy Bartram-Baird * * *

To further the Baird line, James Ian asked his grandson, Richard Ian Holman to assume the name Baird as Richard Ian Holman-Baird, which the Lord Lyon agreed [although this had not been finally confirmed at the time of the American Members' visit in 1997]. By this time, because of death duties and the effect of The Second World War, the estate of Ury had been sold therefore in 1952 Rickarton became the home of James Ian, his wife Delia Loyd and his family until the move to Keith Hall.



After the death of the 12th Earl in 1989, Michael became the 13th Earl of Kintore. In 1972 he had married Mary, daughter of Elisha Gladdis Plum of New Jersey. They had two children, James William Keith and Iona Mary Keith.



Angus John Holman-Baird * * *

A complete list of the Earls of Kintore can be found on http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Kintore plus an explanation that "The heir apparent to the earldom uses the courtesy title Lord Inverurie". A very detailed list of all the Earls of Kintore and all their titles [last updated on 15/06/1976] appears in --- www.cracraftspeerage.co.uk/online/content/Kintore1677.htm - however, the address given for the 14th Earl of Kintore is not correct. James holds the title of 4th Viscount Stonehaven as a subsidiary title.

The Scottish Title of Baron

It is important to realise that the significance of the title of "Baron" differs greatly within countries throughout the world. In Scotland for an estate, territory etc. to qualify to be a "Barony", at one time it must have been on feudal land "erected into a free barony by a Crown Charter" granted to the original owner who then has the right to use the title "Baron" or "Baroness". The title is "not usually considered to be a rank of Peerage". It can be transferred by inheritance or conveyance. It should not be confused with "Baronet". An example of the most normal form of address, as used in this article is "Richard Ian Holman-Baird of Ury and Lochwood", normally without including the word "Baron".

The words in italics in the paragraph above have been taken from --- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baron> --- however, if studying this website be particularly careful to refer only to the parts that apply to Scotland.

Update Since 1997

* Michael Keith died in 2004 and was succeeded by his son James William Falconer Keith as the 14th Earl of Kintore and Chief of Clan Keith, his wife became The Countess of Kintore and their daughter Lady Iona Keith. Their son Tristan Michael Keith, born in 2010 became Lord Inverurie.

* John & Diana's elder son Richard was confirmed by Lord Lyon as Richard Ian Holman-Baird of Ury and Lochwood.

* Richard and Polly's son Angus became Angus John Holman-Baird.

* The line of the Viscounts of Stonehaven continued with James Ian Falconer Keith being the 4th Viscount.

* In 1997, John and Diana Holman passed the Rickarton estate to their son Richard and his family. John and Diana now live locally in a smaller property.

* During the visit in 1997 to the derelict Ury house and estate, the group was told that there was a rumour that a "Pop Star" was interested in buying it. As recently as August 2011 the Aberdeen "Press and Journal" referred in a headline to "Work on £40m Ury estate golf course could start in a year", with the text referring to Jack Nicklaus being the designer - of course if the necessary permissions are granted by the local authority. This news was repeated in www.eveningexpress.co.uk/Article.aspx/2386908 including an artist's impression of what the house could look like as a golf club hotel.

* The mansion at Keith Hall was sold by Michael Keith when 13th Earl and he and his wife lived in "The Stables". Then two years ago these were sold by James the 14th Earl although he retained the Estate.

The Situation of the Towns and Estates Referred-to in this Article ~in alphabetical order~

- * *Gartsherrie* At Coatbridge 10 miles East of Glasgow
- * *Inverurie* On the A96 14 miles N.W. of Aberdeen
- * *Kirkwood* South of the A89 and W. of Coatbridge
- * *Keith Hall* On the B993 2 miles East of Inverurie
- * *Lochwood* On the A752 about 3 miles N.W. of Coatbridge
- * *Kintore* On the A96 10 miles N. W. of Aberdeen
- * *Rickarton & Ury* On the A957 3 miles inland of Stonehaven
- * *Stonehaven* On the East Coast 12 miles S. of Aberdeen

