



Crest-Badge of the Family of Baird

THE GRYPHON

BAIRD FAMILY SOCIETY WORLD-WIDE

VOLUME II

SPRING 1978

NUMBER V

"CUED MILE FAILTE"

(1000,000 WELCOMES)



NEWBYTH, near East Fortune, in East Lothian. Home of the last Baronets of Newbyth.

We are pleased to introduce our most recent members. SIR DAVID CHARLES BAIRD, 5th BARONET OF NEWBYTH, son of the 3rd baronet. Sir David succeeded his uncle, Sir David, member of the Royal Victorian Order. The present Sir David was the last of the Bairds of Newbyth to reside in the handsome house of Newbyth in East Lothian before it was sold in recent years to be made into flats. The estate of Newbyth extended to 3000 acres. Sir David has furnished us with pictures of Newbyth taken shortly before it was sold as well as a picture of Lennoxlove, his childhood home, only six or seven miles from Newbyth. Lennoxlove was the former home of Secretary Maitland, Advisor to Mary, Queen of Scots. For generations it was a Stuart house. It came to Sir David's father through his mother.

We enjoyed the privilege of two half days spent with Sir David last spring; seeing some paintings and other family treasures that had once graced Newbyth. Sir David now resides in Kirkcudbright.

MR. and MRS. FREDERICK MUNRO BAIRD who spend their summers at their home in Newport, Nants County, Nova Scotia and their winters in Mount Dora, Florida, joined the Society in January. Fred is retired administrator of the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital, New York. He and Bertha are both ardent golfers.

Fred is descended from Thomas Baird who married Margaret Barnhill, daughter of Robert Barnhill and sailed to Halifax, Nova Scotia in the year 1761 on the ship Hope-well from Donegal, Ireland. Four children

born in Ireland sailed with them, Dorcas being the only one to survive the journey. Other children were born after their arrival. They came with a group of two hundred called the Ulster Irish who emigrated under the direction of Col. Alex McNutt, supplied by the British Government. In the spring of 1762, the Barnhills and Thomas Baird were granted the township of Londonderry, N.S.

Fred is the son of Capt. Charles Wesley Baird and Hannah Eugenie Stoddard. His grandparents were John Baird and Susan Bigney and great grandparents were John Baird and Rebecca Dickson.

CONSTANCE McGRATH BAIRD, wife of John Wesley Baird, deceased, joined on her husband's line. Her husband was a brother of the above Fred. Constance is responsible for furnishing us with much background history on the Thomas Baird line. She resides in Halifax, Nova Scotia. From this union there are two daughters: Pamela Jane, married to David Gerard Barry of Brunswick, Canada. They have five sons. Deborah Joan, an home economist, Halifax.

Constance's main interest seem to be family history and travel. She has recently returned from an island cruise.

At last we are glad we can announce that MIRIAL VIRGINIA and EMILY HARRIET BAIRD, sisters from Sarasota, Florida, are now members. For several years we have enjoyed seeing them at the Grandfather Mt. and Stone Mt. Games. They are both draftsmen and descend from a long line of Kentucky Bairds. Their line of descent as given to us by them was: their father, Lee Roy Baird, Owensboro, Kentucky; grandfather John Hanley Baird, Davis Co., KY; Benjamin Price Baird, great grandfather, KY; John Pottox Baird, great, great grandfather, KY; and James Baird, great, great, great grandfather, also KY.

Among other interests is their Mt. retreat cottage in North Carolina, where we first made contact with them.

MR. AND MRS. ELTON INGRAM retired to Florida from Michigan in 1974. Florence taught for twenty-five years in the Michigan Schools. Since her retirement, her interests have turned to genealogy and sewing. They have one son, David Baird Ingram, who has a family and lives in Maitland, Florida.

Florence's earliest ancestor known was Adam Baird, who married Isabell Raeburn and

came with his brother, James, from Antrim Co., Northern Ireland and settled in Caledon, Ontario around 1830. Adam's daughter, Isabell married the son of James. Their daughter, Dorcas Jamesina Baird, who married Charles Kruger were the parents of Florence. Florence and Elton have done extensive research on the family and will furnish a copy for our files when it is complete.

We welcome all of you and hope you will find your affiliation with the Baird Family Society rewarding.

SOCIETY SPONSORSHIP BROADENS

The Fifth Stone Mt. Scottish Festival and Games held at Stone Mt., Georgia, October 15th and 16th were again spectacular. The chilling winds that prevailed were overshadowed by the warmth of our hosts, the Atlanta Scots. Assisting in welcoming guests at our Society tent for the two-day event, were Charles Baird and Nat and Shari Baird from Atlanta.

Sir Arthur Eliot, 11th Baronet of Stobs, Laird of Redheugh and Chief of Clan Elliott was the guest of honor for the Games. He visited our tent to extend his sympathy on the loss of our Founder and gave his best wishes for the continued pursuit of the activation and development of interest in Clan Baird.

Charles and Virginia Baird represented us at the Tartan Ball and our Banner was carried by Nat Baird as the Bairds marched in the Parade of Tartans.

During the closing ceremonies, we were deeply moved when the winner of the Byron Baird Memorial Trophy, donated by Anna and George Newberry was announced. It was presented to a young lady from Canada for Amateur Grade I Piobaireachd.

In November, Nancy and Randall Baird represented us at the Solado Texas Gathering of the Scottish Clans. We wish to thank Col. McKay for sharing the Clan McKay tent with us. Our representatives arranged a very attractive exhibit showing the activities of the Society and reported that much interest was generated by those who stopped to visit.

January 21st found us deeply involved in the First Orlando Scottish Highland Games, Orlando, Florida. We had a good representation of Bairds in attendance with sixteen signing our register, three attending the

reception, nine the Buffet and four the Ball. Society members attending from Florida were: Grace Baird McIntosh, Gainesville; William E. Eikenberry, Winter Park; Dr. and Mrs. Don M. Wilkins and children, Amy and Jeff, Merritt Island; from Flippin, Arkansas, Anne and Kenzie Keith Baird; and the following who took membership that day: from Florida, Harriett and Mirial Baird, Sarasota; Florence and Elton Ingram, Orlando; and Bertha and Fred Baird, Nova Scotia and Mt. Dora, Florida.

The immediate family of Byron O. Baird, Founder of the Baird Family Society, donated a Memorial Trophy in the name of the Society which was presented to the City of Dunedin Pipe Band, First Place winner in the Grade IV Pipe Band Contest. The presentation was made by his daughter, Victoria Wilkins.



BYRON O. BAIRD MEMORIAL TROPHY presented to Dunedin City Pipe Band, First Place Winner, by Victoria Baird Wilkins at Orlando Scottish Highland Games.

We expected to have representation for the Scottish American Heritage Week in Fort Worth, Texas, but when the celebration had to be postponed due to severe weather, our representative could not attend, but we did have an excellent 2" x 3" ad in their program, which has already brought some requests for information.

Grandfather Mt. Highland Games, to be held in Linville, North Carolina July 8th and 9th, will climax with our Annual Business meeting. We will have a hospitality tent on MacRae Meadow. Be sure to come immediately to register and receive your identification badge. Highlights of the program follows:

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 6:00 P.M. - PICNIC
Eseeola Lodge. Adults only. Tickets -

\$5.00, may be purchased at Lodge.

THURSDAY, JULY 6, 8:30 P.M. - A NIGHT WITH SCOTTISH AMERICAN HERITAGE and NAT. TRUST FOR SCOTLAND. "A Trip Through Scotland" - slides and talk. ParTee Room, Eseeola Golf Club. Free.

HIGHLIGHTS (Continued)

FRIDAY, JULY 7, 7:30 P.M. - PIPING CONCERT
John McFadyen, Lees-MacRae College, Banner Elk, N.C. - \$2.00.

8:00 P.M. - CEILIDH - Hays Auditorium, Lees-MacRae College, Adults \$2.00 - Under 12 - \$1.00.

9:00 P.M. - SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING. Grandfather Golf & Country Club. Tickets at door. Spectator - \$3.00; Participant - \$7.50

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 8:00 A.M. - MACRAE MEADOW OPENS FOR GAMES.

9:00 A.M. - Competition begins.

11:00 A.M. - SUNFISH SAIL-BOAT HIGHLAND REGATTA, Loch Dornie, GGCC

*** 11:30 A.M. - ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF SOCIETY. See announcement column for details.

1:00 P.M. - OPENING CEREMONIES, Massed bands.

2:30 P.M. - Sheep Dog Demonstration.

7:30 P.M. - CEILIDH - Hays Aud. Lees-MacRae College, Banner Elk, Adults \$2.00; under 12 - \$1.00

9:00 P.M. - TARTAN BALL - Grandfather Golf & Country Club. By invitation only. Members wishing to attend refer to announcement column.

SUNDAY, JULY 9, 8:00 A.M. - MACRAE MEADOW OPENS.

10:00 A.M. - WORSHIP SERVICE
Immediately following service, "Kirkin of the Tartan" and Parade of Tartans (all male members to participate). See announcements.

12:00 NOON - Members may use Society Tent for lunch. Frances Baird will be attending Games Council Luncheon Meeting to represent the Society.

1:00 P.M. - Activities resume on Field.

NOTE: To deter traffic congestion, buses will operate from two locations Sat. and Sun. every half hour. TO Games 9:00 - 12:00 P.M. FROM Games - 3:00 - 6:00 P.M. Locations:

1. Parking area on Highway 105 opposite riding stables.
2. Parking area at termination of Blue Ridge Parkway on #221, Linville exit.

A great deal of work goes into these Games through dedicated non-paid committees and officers contributing their time and talent to make these Games enjoyable for us. In spite of exaggerated press reports, the Games Committee says only approximately 17,000 spectators attended last year. They further report \$88,519.42 in expenditures with receipts of \$92,328.09. The balance remaining goes into the Scholarship Fund which was created to send worthy students of Scottish descent to a university in Scotland for post-graduate work; to the North American Academy of Piping and The School of Scottish Arts. A full financial report will be available at our tent for those desiring to see it.

The Baird Family Society thanks the Games Committees of all the Games we sponsor for their dedicated service in providing these outstanding opportunities for Scottish Culture and fellowship.

GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION DESIRED

We have had requests to include queries in the Gryphon. We hope they may produce results. If you wish to use this column, state briefly and concisely what you wish to know and mail to us. The ones included can be used as a sample for you.

HAWKINS, MRS. ELLEN E., Rt. 1, Box 743, La Jara, Colorado 81140 desires: parents of Alexander Baird (probably Richard Alexander) who lived in South Carolina, married Mary Green from Tennessee, also her parents. Is Samuel Biard, born 22 Sept. 1810 in Nashville, Green Co., Tenn. who married on 5 Sept. 1830 Matilda Rutledge, their son? Information on any other children of Alexander Baird and Mary Green.

KINTORE, THE RT. HON. EARL OF, Keith Hall, Inverurie, Aberdeenshire, AB5 0LD, Scotland: wishes to make contact with anyone having information on descendants of the following: ROBERT BAIRD born about 1723 in

Scotland (3rd son of Alexander Baird born about 1689 died 1766) married Janet Thom about 1750: had issue; John Baird born about 1750, Scotland, married Janet Clelland about 1770 had issue; James, brother of above John who married about 1771 and had issue; sister, Ann born about 1753 married Walter Thom had issue; her sister, Agnes born about 1754 had family by Robert Moffat; Another John Baird born about 1767 married about 1787 Elizabeth Smellie, had John 1789 also 1795 had Alexander who drowned in New York about 1815-20 and left at least a son, Alexander and daughter, Helen. Youngest son, James went to Canada about 1820, also daughters unaccounted for Helen and Elizabeth who married Thomas Conway and had issue. NOTE: all of the above are of the Bairds of Gartsherrie. Lord Kintore is doing extensive research to bring this line forward. He will greatly appreciate any information.

THOMAS, MRS. HENRY C., 2110 55th St., Lubbock, Texas 79412. Interested in exchanging information with anyone working on following line: Taylor Baird, born 1778 died 1836, married 12 Jan. 1820 in Shelby Co., KY to Lydia Huss (Hess) dau. of Edward and Kathryn (Walters) Huss. Listed in Hardin Co. KY, census in 1810. Later moved to Hickman Co., KY. Children - Samuel, William, Mary Jane, Edward, Felix G. also spelled name Beard and Bard. Probably son of Samuel Beard and Lehemiah Taylor who married 16 September 1776 in Harford Co., MD.

A REPOSITORY FOR GENEALOGICAL DATA

For sometime the Clans have been concerned about a way to safeguard our accumulating genealogical records, at the same time making them more available to others. The genealogist for the Council of Scottish Clan Associations of North America, of which we are a member clan, has contacted the records specialist at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons) Salt Lake City, Utah concerning the availability of their facilities for this purpose. In response, he was told they would welcome contributions pertaining to ancestors and the living, here and abroad. Anyone who has done much research will have at some time or other used the services of The Genealogical Society Library of Salt Lake City, Utah. For those of you who are not

knowledgeable, we include a brief description. They maintain teams in Europe, Asia and both Americas who copy local records on microfilm. The film is catalogued and preserved in vaults dug into the mountain near Salt Lake City. These vaults will withstand any anticipated atomic strike. The vaults are so vast that only 20% are now filled.

Currently there are 247 branch libraries of The Genealogical Society of Utah in the United States and Canada and four in England. In order to use material from these extensive files, one consults the catalogue in one of the branch libraries and submits a requisition form. In time, the desired material will be copied from the master files in the Mt. vaults and sent to the branch library nearest to the user, where he may use their reading machines. The users only cost is for mailing the film.

Included in their collection are land, probate and vital records for most of Scotland from early to about 1900. In addition, they have Scottish Census records from 1841 - 1891, military records from 1760 to 1900; shipping records from the 16th and 17th centuries and, of course, numerous family histories and genealogies.

It is possible that arrangements will be made to have one of their microfilm teams present during the Grandfather Mt. Highland Games to microfilm documents brought by the Clans to be safeguarded. Material to be copied should be prepared on the proper forms such as those familiar to all genealogists. Our members were given the ancestor and family charts to fill out a couple of years ago, but few have been returned. We urge you to place what information you have and return them. If you do not now have the charts, inquire at your local library where they may have them for purchase or send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to us.

The Genealogical Society of Utah has made a very generous offer at no cost to us except making the material available to them for copying. It would assure a safe depository for our records, to be made available to others and affords retrievability of the data we submit as well as that collected by others.

We will be contacting the council genealogist to let him know we are interested having our material copied if a team is

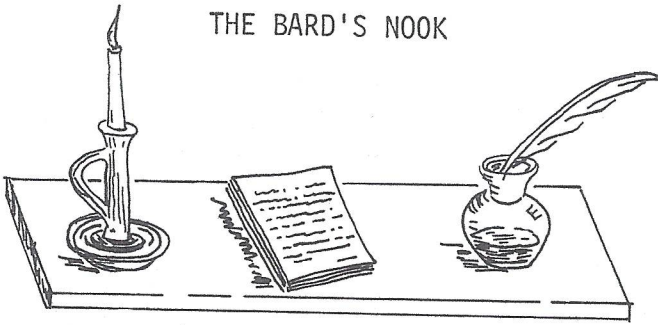
available. If for any reason you do not wish to have material you have sent the Baird Family Society copied, please let us know and we will respect your requests.

KILTED BAIRDS NEEDED!

We need to get our men kilted in order to present ourselves well at the various games. The Scottish vendors will be glad to assist you in placing an order for the proper attire. It must be tailored especially to your size and you will need to allow three to six months for delivery. When your kilt arrives, don't think the tailor forgot to hem it! No hem is used - the bottom edge is selvaged, thus making the pleats look neater. We need, if possible, a kilted member to present our Tartan for the "Kirtin" and one to carry the Tartan in the parade at the Grandfather Games. The first to write and say, "have kilt - will carry" gets the honors. We need to have all males in the parade kilted, too, but we'll accept you wearing a blazer with trews (Baird Tartan preferred), or suit with Baird Tartan tie and Balmoral (can buy latter two from vendors at the Games most likely). Ladies do not march in the Parade of Tartans at Grandfather Games, but we do recommend the wearing of a scarf or skirt in the Baird Tartan for recognition.

There are two Baird Tartans available: The Baird Hunting which has the darker colors of greens and blues with the heather overstripe which is suitable for daywear. The Baird Old Colors with lighter shades of blue and green with heather overstripes which shows up prettier for evening, but is also suitable for daytime as well. When you place an order, you will need to specify which you desire. It would not be in good taste to wear garments made from both at the same time. Samples of each may be seen at our tent. We can furnish you names of suppliers for yardage.

THE BARD'S NOOK



Those of you who attended the buffet during the Orlando Scottish Games will recall the feeble attempt we made trying to accomplish an appropriate Scottish blessing. In order that a Baird not be caught in this bind again, we give you "twa" to affix in your memories.

It is said that on a visit to St. Mary's Isle, Robert Burns was requested by the noble owner to say grace at dinner. He obeyed in the following lines now known in Galloway as:

THE SELKIRK GRACE

BY ROBERT BURNS

Some hae meat and canna eat
And some wad eat that want it,
But we hae meat, and we can eat
And sae the Lord be thank it.
Amen.

Then with more solemnity, Robert Burns gave the world his beautiful

A GRACE BEFORE DINNER

O Thou who kindly dost provide
For every creature's want
We bless Thee, God of Nature Wide,
For all thy goodness lent.

And if it please Thee, Heavenly Guide,
May never worse be sent;
But whether granted or denied,
Lord bless us with content.

Amen.

MEMORIAL

The Baird Family Society became a reality in July of 1972 during the Grandfather Mt. Highland Games after much prior correspondence and groundwork had been laid by its Founder, Byron Owsley Baird, who was deceased July 24, 1977. In 1972, we first became a sponsor of those games, held our organizational meeting there and the Baird Tartan was first seen on MacRae Meadow. How proud we all were!

In view of the above, some of our members have suggested it would be a fitting tribute to our Founder if a trophy were presented by the Baird Family Society to Byron's memory during the games this year. The Trophy will cost around \$25.00. We probably will have enough in our account to cover the cost, but it was also suggested that members might wish to make a small contribution to the Memorial in which case, if you so desire, you could add to your dues which you will be sending July 1st anyway. The Trophy will be a Chalice on a stand and will be engraved with the following: "Amateur Grade III Piobaireachd, Grandfather Mt. Highland Games, Baird Family Society Worldwide, In Memory of Byron Owsley Baird, Founder. It will be listed in the Games Program the same way.

BAIRD STONE FOR THE CAIRN

Several years ago, the Clans were asked to secure a stone from their ancestral lands to be used in erecting a cairn at Grandfather Mt. to the Founders of those Games. Lord Kintore collected one for us from Auchmedden which weighted about nine pounds. Byron brought it back in his hand luggage when we returned from the International Gathering of the Scottish Clans last May. Now we must get a proper inscription made to attach which will withstand the elements of time. We hope to have this accomplished to present this July.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT TO DATE

BALANCE on hand, 4/1/78	\$154.04
EXPENDITURES since 7/1/77	
Stone Mt. Games, sponsorship & tent rental	55.05
Jiffy Copy Ctr., print Gryphon Fall	59.07
Orlando Highland Games - sponsorship	40.00
Jiffy Copy Ctr., print news-briefs	8.06
Scottish Clans of N. Texas - Society Ad	10.00
Grandfather Mt. Games - Sponsorship	75.00
" " " - Service Corp. (Rental tent, table)	55.00
TOTAL TO DATE	\$302.13

Postage and supplies for the year and this printing yet to be included.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. ANNUAL MEETING: Sat. 11:30 a.m., Society Tent. We need to elect the following officers to serve for a two-year term: President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Genealogist, Historian (Scrapbook) and two directors. The vitality of the Society will depend on your input. If you would be willing to serve as an officer, please let us know in order that we will have a slate to present. Bring a folding chair and lunch to tent. (Can buy food from vendors) and eat together prior to meeting.
2. TARTAN BALL. If you wish to attend, let us know at once so we can request an invitation be mailed to you. With your invitation, you will receive a card to request your tickets at \$10.00 per person. As a member you may also purchase tickets for your guests. Request seating with Clan Baird. Invitations will be mailed out from N.C. around the last week in May. Requests for tickets will not be honored after June 30th. Dress: Highland evening attire, black tie or dress military.
3. DUES for new year due July 1st. \$5.00 single, \$10.00 family. Keep address current.
4. MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY should be ready to go out with the Gryphon. We regret to have to delete some names for non-payment of dues for a period of more than one year.
5. GRYPHON STAFF WRITERS NEEDED. You can send current information about your family to use. Report promotions, travel, honors, births, marriages, death, etc. Write an article about your family history to share or any research you have turned up on any Bairds that would have interest to others.
6. TARTAN PARADE. Immediately following worship service all Baird men form up behind the Baird Tartan for the march past the reviewing stand. Parade will form near worship area.
7. ROOM RESERVATIONS: Most likely, Sugar Mt. Ski Lodge, P.O. Box 369, Banner Elk, N.C. Ph. (704) 898-4521; for campers: Sugarland Mt. Campground, Rt. 2, Box 230A, Newland, N.C. 28657; Ph. (704) 733-9797.

8. SOME HIGHLAND EVENTS (Sorry we can't print all).

- May 6 - Savannah Scottish Games at old Ft. Jackson.
 - May 27-28 - Alma Highland Games, Alma, Mich.
 - June 3 - Colonial Highland Gathering - Fair Hill, Mich.
 - June 17 - Delco Scottish Games, Devon, PA.
 - ** July 8-9 - Grandfather Mt. Games, Linville, N.C.
 - July 22 - Virginia Highland Games, Alexandria, VA
 - * Oct. 11 - Salado, Texas Games
 - * Oct. 21-22 - Stone Mt. Highland Games, GA.
 - * Jan. 13-14, 1979 - Orlando Scottish Highland Games, Florida.
- *denotes games we sponsor
**denotes annual meeting

BAIRD FAMILY SOCIETY WORLDWIDE
1890 CHOCTAW TRAIL,
MAITLAND, FLORIDA 32751
PHONE: 305/ 647-1129