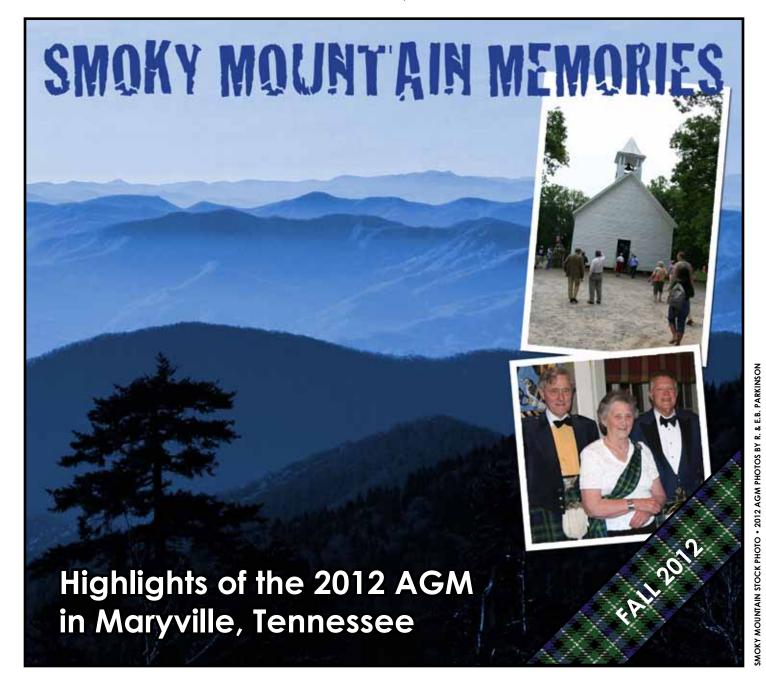


MEMBERS OF: COUNCIL OF SCOTTISH CLANS ASSOCIATIONS, INC. & CLANS AND SCOTTISH SOCIETIES OF CANADA



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ON THE FRONT COVER

Native Tennessean **Dolly Parton**'s song, "Smoky Mountain Memories," provides the theme for the 2012 Annual General Meeting highlights.



FALL 2012 VOL. 28, NO. 3

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From the Desk of the Chieftain Richard Graham

e continued to celebrate this special year for Grahams worldwide at our 2012 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Tennessee by commemorating the birth of one of Scotland's greatest heroes and patriots—the renowned **James Graham**, 5th Earl and 1st Marquis of Montrose, who was born in 1612—400 years ago.

Celebrations have also occurred in Scotland, especially at a memorial service at the High Kirk of St. Giles, Edinburgh, during the same weekend as our 2012 AGM in May. Our chief's son, the **Marquis of Graham**, attended the service, since our Chief himself, the **8th Duke of Montrose**, joined us for a similar celebration during our AGM in Tennessee.

Our Chief also attended a silver arrow competition at St. Andrews University in Scotland where the 1st Marquis of Montrose attended as part of his education. The silver arrow was won twice by the 1st Marquis during his stay there. The BBC was on campus in the pouring rain as they were completing the shooting of their proposed one-hour documentary on the Great Marquis' life, narrated by Professor **Ted Cowan** of Glasgow University.

Moreover, our Chief recently attended a ceremony in Plymouth, England, to present Diamond Jubilee medals to the crew of the Type 23 Frigate *HMS Montrose*. This year marks the Queen's Diamond Jubilee (60th anniversary) of her reign on the throne.

Our 2012 AGM in May went off very well indeed! It took place concurrently with the Smoky Mountain Highland Games on the campus of Maryville College, in Maryville, Tennessee, which made it very convenient for everyone. Our Chief, His Grace, the Duke of Montrose and his wife, the **Duchess**, attended all events and were very happy to join us again and very interested to see, for the first time, that part of the USA. You will be able to see and read more about our 2012 AGM in the following pages of this issue and on our website.

When the Mayor of Maryville, **Tom Taylor**, found out that our Chief was interested in agriculture and that he had farms in Scotland, he invited him on a tour of the University of Tennessee dairy cattle research



Larry Nichols, immediate past president; His Grace, James Graham, the 8th Duke of Montrose; and Richard Graham, North American Clan Graham chieftain.

farm where cutting edge technology is used to grow pastures, raise cows and produce milk. We were able to fit this in on Monday morning after the AGM, just before their planes took off for the United Kingdom where our Chief had an appointment with peers in the House of Lords, Westminster, and the Duchess had to fly back home to Scotland.

This year's AGM included a changing of the guard when Larry Nichols retired and Jim Nethery took over as president of the Clan Graham Society. Larry has done a great job for us over the last four years and this was recognized during the AGM banquet. Once again I say thanks, Larry, for all you have done for us. I do hope that you will continue to support the Clan Graham Society and I do hope that you will continue to be in the loop with us, especially with Editor/Webmaster Ekena B. Parkinson and Vice President of

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GREETINGS

GREETINGS FROM RICHARD GRAHAM <<<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

Communications Wrifton Graham, with regard to their communications work for us.

Also, please join me in congratulating Jim Nethery on his new position as president. Please give Jim your support as he takes hold of the reins of the Society. I will give Jim as much assistance as he may need and I'm sure that Larry will do this, too.

My sincere thanks go out to all those of you who worked so hard in arranging the 2012 AGM this year. In particular, my thanks goes out to Cliff Fitzsimmons, our membership chair vice president, who somehow managed to also be the Games chair as well as chair of the AGM arrangements this year. Cliff was greatly assisted in many respects by **Jeremy Dick**, the Society's treasurer, and his wife, Betty. Thanks, Jeremy and Betty, and all those who attend and represent the Society at Games and gatherings across this continent. I hear such good comments on the hospitality that our representatives provide at these events and the enthusiasm exuded by these Grahams.

So let us continue this year by celebrating the life of the Great Marquis, who had such an impact on Scottish history and is an inspiration. To think that he was a Graham certainly adds to our enthusiasm, of course! My wife, Kate, and I expect to attend the Seaside Games in Ventura, California, durina the weekend of October 13-14, 2012. Since we celebrated the 400th anniversary on the East Coast this year we hope to encourage those on the West Coast to join us to continue the celebration.

Sincerely,

P.S. By the way, and digressing from what I have said so far, four of my grandchildren, ages 3 to 12, recently went to see the movie which our editor, Ekena, featured in the Society's last Clan Graham News. The children thoroughly enjoyed the movie "Brave" (an animated Disney*Pixar production) and so did their parents who took them!



DISNEY*PIXAR PROMOTIONAL MOVIE POSTER





From the Desk of the President W. James (Jim) Nethery

he United States recently celebrated their Independence Day, a time to remember the sacrifices that their forefathers made to gain their freedom and what so many other brave American men and women have done since then to protect that freedom. Our

have done since then to protect that freedom. Our Canadian brothers and sisters have similar experiences as they join the United States and Britain in trouble spots around the world.

We should not forget that our ancestors in Scotland also faced an enemy and proclaimed their independence more than 450 years before the United States was formed. The Declaration of Independence was inspired in part by the Declaration of Arbroath, which was signed by three Grahams, **David**, **John** and **Patrick**, in 1320. Twenty-one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent and two (**John Witherspoon** and **James Wilson**) were born in Scotland.

Today the United States enjoys the results of the terrible risks that their founding fathers took to establish their nation. The possibility of defeat was enormous and the results would have been fatal for every man who signed the Declaration of Independence if the 13 colonies had not prevailed. In addition, their wives and children would have suffered at the hands of the English with the loss of everything they owned, followed by a lifetime of hardship and poverty as indentured servants.

Generations of Americans have built and contributed to the life we are privileged to enjoy and hopefully to strengthen and protect for coming

generations—all this, without risking our lives and homes as our forefathers did.

Part of the quality of life we enjoy is the celebration of our Scottish heritage through studying and sharing our cultural inheritance. This involves the organization of clan societies that are centred around our common ancestry and family ties. Like any voluntary organization these societies require volunteers to make them work effectively. As is usually the case there is a chronic lack of willing members available to ensure effective function of many societies.

From the United States Independence Day to the Declaration of Arbroath to clan societies, you may ask, "Where is he going?" Here is the pitch. If you get a call from the Continental Convener, the Nominating Committee, a regional commissioner or any one else in the Clan Graham Society asking you to take on an assignment, please remember our ancestors who signed the Declaration of Arbroath while fighting **Edward Longshanks**, or our forefathers who signed the Declaration of Independence at risk of life and home, then give your answer.

We all can step forward and contribute to make this a better place even if the US is not at war with England today. Thank you for your willingness to help.

Ne Oublie,

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Grahams make memories at the 2012 AGM in Maryville, Tennessee



BY JENNY FITZSIMMONS

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

The Grahams made memories and lasting friendships at the 37th Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year in Maryville, Tennessee, at the Ruby Tuesday Lodge, whose grounds are located on the Maryville College campus where the Smoky Mountain Highland Games were held during the same weekend.

The Clan Graham was also distinguished during the festivities, due to the presence of **James Graham**, His Grace, the 8th Duke of Montrose, clan chief, who was the guest of honor at the Games.

The Society's very own **Clifford Fitzsimmons**, vice president of membership, did double duty over the weekend, since he is also president of the Smoky Mountain Highland Games.

THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2012

The Clan Graham Society officers and other members met in the morning to discuss important Society business. The meeting was chaired by outgoing President Larry Nichols.

In the evening, musicians **Conny Ottway** and **Mark Douglas Murray** entertained members in the Ruby Tuesday garden area at an informal welcome reception. The Duke and Duchess just arrived in Tennessee that afternoon to meet and greet everyone.



Conny Ottway and Mark Douglas Murray get a special song request from Richard Graham, North American Chieftain of the Clan Graham, at the AGM welcome reception, which took place at the Ruby Tuesday Lodge in Maryville, Tennessee.

FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2012

A group of Grahams toured the Great Smoky Mountains and were lucky to see not only interesting historical sites, but at least two bears. Unfortunately, park staff was on hand to prevent the wily Grahams from recruiting the bears as new Society members

SMOKA MOUNT

and putting them to work at the clan tent over the weekend.

Shuttles also took members to downtown Maryville for dinner and shopping, while the Society's executive officers, the Duke and Duchess and sponsors attended the Games cocktail social and gala later that night.

In a departure from tradition, the Mugdock Auction was held the evening prior to the AGM and Banquet, with old-hand **Joel Warren** acting as auctioneer,

helped by two lovely assistants, **Norris Graham** of Arizona and **Dave Graham** of New Hampshire. The auction raised more than \$1,650! Many thanks to all who participated, voluntarily or by coercion, in the preservation of Mugdock Castle.

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Society members tour old wooden buildings and heritage homes of the early settlers of the Smoky Mountains.

AIN MEMORIES

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Joel Warren (right) serves as auctioneer and is assisted by Norris Graham. More than \$1,650 was raised to help in preservation efforts for Mugdock Castle.



Norris Graham (left) and Dave Graham show off some of the treasures up for auction as Michele Graham records the proceedings in the background.



The 400th birth anniversary of the Great Marquis of Montrose is commemorated at the Maryville College campus chapel.



A young bagpiper plays music and leads members of the Clan Graham on a march from the chapel to the Games field.

SMOKY MOUNT



Richard and Kate Graham, the Duchess and Duke of Montrose, Reverend Anne McKee, Joyce and Jim Nethery and Larry Nichols pose for a group photo before participating in a processional for the Great Marquis service.

<<<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012

The Grahams came together the next morning to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the birth of **James Graham**, the 1st Marquis of Montrose, during a special service at the Maryville College campus chapel.

Kathleen Fitzsimmons played piano and the Reverend **Anne McKee** presided. **Richard Graham, Jim Nethery** and His Grace, the **Duke of Montrose**, gave details of the Great Marquis' life and insight into his character and times. (Full transcripts of their speeches may be downloaded from the Society website at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/400marquis.html.)

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AIN MEMORIES

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<<<< CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Following the service, members proceeded to the Games and opened the tent for the day. The Duke was present for the opening ceremonies.

After the Games, the AGM was held at the Ruby Tuesday Lodge. Larry Nichols passed the torch to Jim Nethery, the Society's new president, and special gifts were presented to the Duke and Duchess. A few irrepressible Grahams followed the dinner with more merrymaking at the "Ceilidh Under the Stars" on the Main Games Field, while others enjoyed the koi pond and conversation.

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 2012

On the final day of the Games, members marched in the Parade of Tartans before bidding each other

Richard Graham does a dramatic "Ode to the Haggis". Two delectable flavors are available for hungry guests: beef and lamb.

farewell later in the afternoon at an informal social at the Ruby Tuesday Lodge.

Many thanks to the organizers of the 2012 Clan Graham Society AGM for their dedicated service:

- Jeremy and Betty Dick
- Kiersten Graham Dick
- Cliff Fitzsimmons
- Angela Groenhout
- Ron and Annette Graham Jones

Thanks also to the attendees for contributing many wonderful ideas and exuding a spirit of fellowship!

NOTES: View more memorable photos of the 2012 AGM online at our website at http://www.clan-grahamsociety.org/2012AGM.html.

The venue for next year's AGM is in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino in April 2013.



Jim Nethery is sworn in as president of the Society (what a birthday present!). Also pictured are Joyce Nethery, Michele Graham and Larry Nichols.



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Games Chair Cliff Fitzsimmons presents a walking stick to the Duke of Montrose at Saturday's opening ceremonies.



Young family members of the Clan Graham proudly hold a special banner and lead the group during Sunday's Parade of Tartans.



At the VIP tent: The Duke of Montrose, Clan Hay and Richard Graham. Bob Nethery holds one of the standards/banners.



Grahams gather for a farewell social on Sunday afternoon on the last day of the AGM. Thanks for the Smoky Mountain memories!

AIN MEMORIES

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Save the date for next year's Annual General Meeting: April 2013 - Las Vegas, Nevada

The Clan Graham Society plans to hold its next Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Las Vegas, Nevada, in April 2013, to coincide with the Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games.

THE VEGAS GAMES

The Las Vegas Celtic Gathering and Highland Games has been billed as the "premier gathering and games of the Southwest". Scheduled for the weekend of April 20-21, 2013, the 9th annual Vegas Games will take place at Floyd Lamb Park at Tule Springs (Highway 95 and Durango). There will be competitions in pipe bands, drum major, Highland dance and heavy athletics. A British Car Show will be featured. And more than 40 clans and societies will be present, including the Clan Graham Society. Free parking is available. However, no dogs or pets will be permitted in the park during this event (but service dogs are welcome). Check the Las Vegas Celtic Society website for more information at http://www.lasvegascelticsociety.org/games.html.

AGM HOTEL - GOLDEN NUGGET 129 FREMONT STREET, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101

AGM activities and accommodations will take place at the Golden Nugget Hotel and Casino, a Four-Diamond luxury hotel which underwent a \$350 million renovation recently. It is the largest casino in the downtown Las Vegas area.

The 55,000 square-foot casino features popular slot and video poker machines, table games, race and sports book and poker room.

Travelocity further describes that the Golden Nugget has complimentary lounge entertainment nightly; a 600-seat theater featuring headlining shows; The Tank, a year-round outdoor swimming pool complex complete with 200,000-gallon live shark aquarium, three story slide through the shark tank, cabanas; H20 poolside lounge with fire pit; world class restaurants such as Grotto Italian Ristorante; Vic & Anthony's Steakhouse and Chart House; The Spa at the Golden Nugget; The Wedding Chapel; meeting



space to accommodate from 10 to 1,300; and seven retail outlets. Other amenities include gift shops, tour assistance, complimentary valet and self parking, car rental, 24-hour room service and the largest golden nugget weighing over 61 pounds!

Those who attend the AGM can also get an exciting "Fremont Street Experience" at the canopycovered pedestrian mall featuring free light shows and entertainment, shopping, gaming, bar/lounges or jump on the new ACE Gold line for a quick trip over to the Premium Outlet Mall or the Strip.

For a photo gallery, promotional video and virtual tour of the Golden Nugget Hotel, go to the website at http://goldennugget.com/lasvegas/.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Norris Graham (nmg2415@hotmail.com) is chairing the 2013 AGM planning committee. As plans are confirmed, he will provide additional details about transportation, activities, banquet, registration and prices in upcoming issues of The Clan Graham News and on the Society website at http://www.clangraham-society-org.

Grahams gather at the Loch Norman Highland Games in North Carolina during the weekend of April 20-22, 2012

FROM BARRETT GRAHAM

NEWPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

The Loch Norman Highland Games in North Carolina opened Friday evening, April 20, 2012, to pleasant weather and a well-attended Calling of the Clans. State Convener **Barrett Graham** answered the call for Clan Graham, which was in attendance for the 19th consecutive year.

The weather was also splendid on Saturday, April 21, with 16 visitors who signed in, including:

- Harry Conyers
- Chad and Beth Graham
- Gary Graham
- Mike and Ann Graham
- Sue Graham
- Julie Jaramillo
- Cheryl Mitchell

- David Netherly
- Katherine Graham Pickett
- Andrew F. Sam
- Sarah Turner
- Charles Ward
- Matthew Waisner
- Graham Weaver
- Carol Godwin Wood

We also welcomed countless well-behaved children at our clan tent, who are not unlike flocks of small birds at a bird feeder, obtaining "visas" for their "passports."

Attendance at the Games overall was steady. But several of the vendors we ordinarily expect to see were conspicuous by their absences, undoubtedly reflecting the current economic conditions. In the finest traditions of Loch Norman, the weather changed Saturday night and liquified the sunshine on Sunday, April 21.



Kudos and special thanks are due to **Cheryl Mitchell** who provided invaluable assistance at the tent and represented Clan Graham in the Parade of Tartans.

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Despites storms in Dunedin, Grahams get together in Florida for the Dunedin Highland Games on April 21, 2012

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ROBERT GRAHAM

HASLETT, MICHIGAN

Greetings to all the Grahams from West-Central Flordia, namely, Gulf Coast Dunedin, where the 46th annual Dunedin Scottish Games and Festival took place at Highlander Park on April 21, 2012.

Opening ceremonies began at noon. Seventeen drum and pipe bands led the Parade of Tartans and Clans. The Clan Graham banner was carried by young clan members **Rebecca**, **Haley** and **Kyle Graham**, followed by **James and JoAnn Graham** from Tampa, Florida, and **Leo and Shea (Graham) Ford** and their two sons, **Charlie and William**, in their strollers from Largo, Florida. **Douglas Graham** carried the tartan flag and **Janet and Robert Graham** also marched. What a fine group of representation for the Grahams.

After the parade, the national anthems of the United States and Canada were sung by **Katherine Laursen** and accompanied by the drum and pipe bands. The honored chieftain for these games was Chief **Kenneth Gieson** of Dunedin and the honored clan was **Clan Dunbar**. This was all followed by greetings from Provost **Fergus Wood** from Stirling, Scotland, who welcomed and invited us all to Stirling in 2014 for a summer of festivities and games. He later stopped by the Clan Graham tent to reaffirm his invitation. It should also be noted that he brought greetings from the former Stirling Provost, **Colin O'Brian**, who some of us may remember from the Society's 2005 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Scotland.

By 3 p.m., a storm forced the games to close. Who would have thought that this would happen to us two games in a row? After we were rained out, a few remaining Grahams gathered at a local restaurant for an enjoyable meal and fellowship. Attending was Doug Graham, **Rosemary Graham Doyle**, Robert and Janet Graham, and James and JoAnn Graham.

Thanks to Doug Graham who brought a new poster of the septs of the Clan Graham to display



at the tent, which proved helpful for a couple from Dunedin, Florida, who were looking for a clan to which they belonged. **Moran and Luana Bunting** have now found a new home and their clan. Immediately they signed up as new members of the Society and the Clan Graham family. They are very active seniors who participate in the Senior Olympic Games. They are winners in kayaking, marathon running and biathlons. Welcome to our group!



Leading the Parade of Tartans for the Clan Graham were Rebecca, Haley and Kyle Graham with James and JoAnn Graham. Also pictured are Leo and Shea (Graham) Ford with their sons Charlie and William.



Linda Graham, Rosemary Graham Doyle, Douglas Graham, Eddie Graham, Doug Graham, Barbra Graham, Cody Graham and Robert Graham (Linda, Doug, Eddie, Barbara and Cody are from St. Petersburg, Florida).



James and JoAnn Graham from Tampa, Florida, stopped by the Clan Graham tent at the Dunedin Games.



Luana and Moran Bunting from Dunedin, Florida, became new members of the Clan Graham Society when they found the Bunting name listed on the new Clan Graham septs poster.

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Descendants of John and Mary Graham in Canada celebrate 90 consecutive years of family reunions in June 2012

STORY AND PHOTOS BY BILL RICHARDSON

ONTARIO, CANADA

The pride of the Grahams was evident in Oakwood, Ontario, Canada, this past June 10, 2012, as the descendants of **John and Mary Graham** gathered to celebrate their heritage and to pass on their enthusiasm to another generation of John and Mary's family.

John and Mary Graham emigrated to Canada from Newtonhamilton, County Armagh, Northern Ireland, about 1842 and settled in Darlington County, Ontario. Armagh is situated 31 miles southwest of Belfast and the city of Armagh was once considered the chief city in Ireland. Armagh is situated between counties Tyrone, Down and Monaghan and the soil is fertile and well adapted to growing potatoes, wheat, flax and oats. Most farms of this period would have been subsistence farms operated with the labour of a man and his wife and the support of their family, living on the fruits of their labour. This would have been fine had not the potato famine come along, devastating the main source of food for Ireland and causing starvation for many; emigration would be the only resort for many. It has been said that this branch of the Graham family moved from Perthshire, Scotland, to the Island of Islay and then to County Armagh, Northern Ireland—about 25 miles between Islay and Ireland.

John and Mary left Ireland for Canada to endure a long, trying voyage during which John died at sea. His death left Mary to care for five of their nine children in a new land amid unfamiliar customs and no wage earner to support her and her children. The oldest child, **Samuel**, and his wife **Ellen** and two children, plus two of Samuel's siblings, **Margaret** and **Robert**, came to Canada separately in 1847; no doubt they would be welcomed by Mary and the rest of her family. **Jane**, the oldest daughter, married and remained in Ireland.

As we entered the Community Hall at Oakwood, we were impressed by the genealogies that were displayed on the walls of the hall. Each branch of the Graham family was designated a colour, allowing the

reader to know at a glance, whose genealogy they were seeing:

- Samuel—orange
- Jane—blue
- Mary and Eliza—yellow
- David—brown
- Margaret—green
- John—turquoise
- Robert—gray
- Thomas—mauve

Many pictures were displayed of ancestors and reunions of days gone by that would have held the interest of those who had been present in earlier times.

Some guessing games were displayed on tables for a little fun and later prizes for the correct answer:

- How many jelly beans were in a jar?
- Strange tools—what were they used for?
- Steal the clothespeg

We were given a clothes pin at the registration desk and soon learned that if we had any part of our body crossed over, the younger members of the group could claim the clothes pin, with the winner at the end of the day being the person with the most clothes pins; I soon lost mine!

A good assortment of races was ongoing outside, keeping the young and the not-so-young entertained for about an hour. By far the most popular contest was eating a donut that was strung on a rope—no hands the last person whose donut hole was complete and still on the rope was the winner.

All of this activity was watched over by a falconer and his bird, a Harris hawk—how like the Grahams to have a falconer on hand to watch over the day's proceedings. I had been asked to bring my bagpipes to play for the reunion and my playing was to be the signal for all to go inside for the short meeting and the potluck meal to follow.

I was also asked to say a few words from Clan Graham and had the honour of presenting to **Margaret Graham**, the reunion chairwoman, a 'Certificate of







Scenes from celebration the (clockwise from top left): Bill Richardson plays the pipes to signal the beginning of the event and to remember ancestor Mary Graham; children have fun during various games throughout the day, such as eating donuts from a rope: a falconer and his bird, a Harris hawk; and a special presentation of a certificate, signed by the 8th Duke of Montrose, and Society officers, to Margaret Graham, 90th reunion chairwoman, from Bill Richardson. Vice President of the Clan Graham Society in Canada.



Recognition' acknowledging the 90 consecutive years that this family had gathered to celebrate their Graham heritage. The document displayed the armorial bearings of our Chief, His Grace, **James Graham**, the 8th Duke of Montrose; Chieftain of the Clan Graham in North America, **Richard Graham**; and the arms of Clan Graham Society. The document was signed by His Grace; Richard; **W. James (Jim) Nethery**, president of Clan Graham Society; and myself, **William**

Richardson, Vice President for Canada, Clan Graham Society. With our Chief's and Chieftain's signatures this certificate should become a valuable addition to the archives of the family of John and Mary Graham.

At the completion of my presentation I played the pipe tune, "Song for Mary," in remembrance of Mary Graham.

It is times like this that one feels proud to be a part of Clan Graham. Ne oublie—"Do not forget".

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Grahams participate in the Grandfather Mountain Highlands Games in North Carolina during July 12-15, 2012

STORY AND PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN WHEELESS ADDITIONAL PHOTOS BY CHARLOTTE GRAHAM

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

The call went out, "Rioghail agus maraon!" and the Grahams in the stands answered "Loyal and united!"

According to tradition, we gathered on MacRae Meadows, near Linville, North Carolina, for the moving torchlight ceremony and for the calling of more than 87 clans who came to Grandfather Mountain over the weekend of July 12-15, 2012, for the 57th annual Grandfather Mountain Highland Games (GMHG).

It was a chilly 66 degrees high on the mountain—a little before sun set. A cool breeze had picked up that afternoon, shifting the thick mists that rolled across the infield. In the meadow that evening the long-sleeved Graham tee shirts sent by **Dave and Jane Graham** of New Hampshire kept us warm, and those of us lucky enough to have remembered our good wool blankets huddled in them waiting for the service to start.

Bill Coburn brought his Border Collies. As we waited for the clans to be raised, his dogs Maggie and Luke herded sheep around the ankles of amazed spectators. Out in the infield, the mist was so thick the sheep couldn't be seen.

Highland games are athletic, dance and musical competitions. Games are also about family, about tradition and about unity found in common bonds of pride in who we are and from whence we came. The food, music, competitions and the beauty of a natural setting, so like a wee bit of Scotland, are inspiring. All these elements (as well as anticipation for the weekend ahead) were on most people's minds that night as the calls went out and as each clan answered with applause, and in the Graham's case, with a united response.

What a perfect beginning for a weekend full of everything Scottish! We had plenty of rain, good spirits and some warm sun, too. The weekend was especially memorable for me because it marked the 50th anniversary that my two siblings and I last gathered on Grandfather to enjoy the games. My sister, **Ellen McDaniel**, brought plates commemorating the 400th

anniversary of the birth of **James Graham**, 1st Marquis of Montrose, the sale of which will be donated toward the restoration of Mugdock Castle in Stirlingshire, Scotland, stronghold of Clan Graham since the 13th century.

My brother, **James Graham Speidel**, proudly called the Grahams at Friday's torchlight ceremony—he was COLD! He also carried the Graham tartan in the Parade of Tartans on Sunday.

Many Clan Graham Society members dropped in to say "hello" at the Clan Graham tent. We visited with **John Lowry** (California), **Todd and Donna Hull** (Florida), and **John Harmon** (North Carolina)—all experienced conveners whose help was welcome as we greeted and talked with visitors from 11 states as well as the United Kingdom and Canada. John even treated us to several verses of Killiecrankie. We will practice up and give him some harmony next time.

Eighty-eight visitors signed the guest register and sampled yummy home-made graham crackers made from the recipe found in the Fall 2010 edition of The Clan Graham News. Four new members filled out applications: **Charlotte Graham, Graham Graham** (yes, Graham is very proud of his heritage!), **Graham and Susan McArver** and James Graham Speidel.

We are ready for next year, because all of these new members have indicated that they will answer the call to help with next year's games.

NOTE: The experience of putting the items together to create an informative and inviting display for our Clan Graham tent has been very rewarding. It was all taken on at the last minute, when I found that our clan was not formally scheduled to attend these important games.

Thanks to the Society's National Convener, **Bill Graham**, for all of his help and to our Chief, **Richard Graham**, and our president, **Jim Nethery**, for trusting a newbie! Thank you, too, to **JoAnne and Bill Graham** (Greensboro, North Carolina) who lent a complete stranger their beautiful tartans, books and banners.

Any new members wondering how they might become active in our clan's Society have only to jump in. Those who have not yet joined the Society may visit us at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/.



The Wheeless girls set up the Clan Graham tent in the mist before the start of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in North Carolina.



The Clan Graham tent features Scottish heritage resources, Society sale items and delicious homemade graham crackers.



The Grahams get ready to march in the processional for the Parade of Tartans.



Jim Graham Speidel proudly raises the Graham flag at the Parade of Tartans.



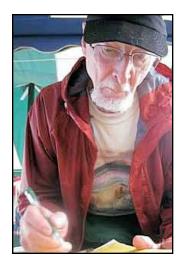
PHOTOS CONTINUE ON PAGE 20 >>>>

See more photos by Kathleen Wheeless on our Facebook album at https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set =a.1121439112374.2020620.1118951680&type=3#!/north.a.graham?sk=info

See additional photos and a video clip by Charlotte Graham on her Facebook album at https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1121439112374.2020620.1118951680&type=3#!/TeteRouge

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GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES <---- CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19



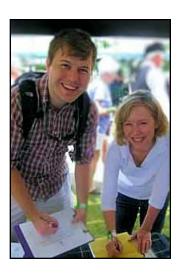
Andrew Sams III renews his membership in the Clan Graham Society.



Cheers to new member Charlotte Graham who is enjoying the games with her husband Jim Skinner.



Graham Graham, new member, is proud of the Graham name!



Graham McArver and his mother Susan Graham Wilds McArver join the Clan Graham Society.

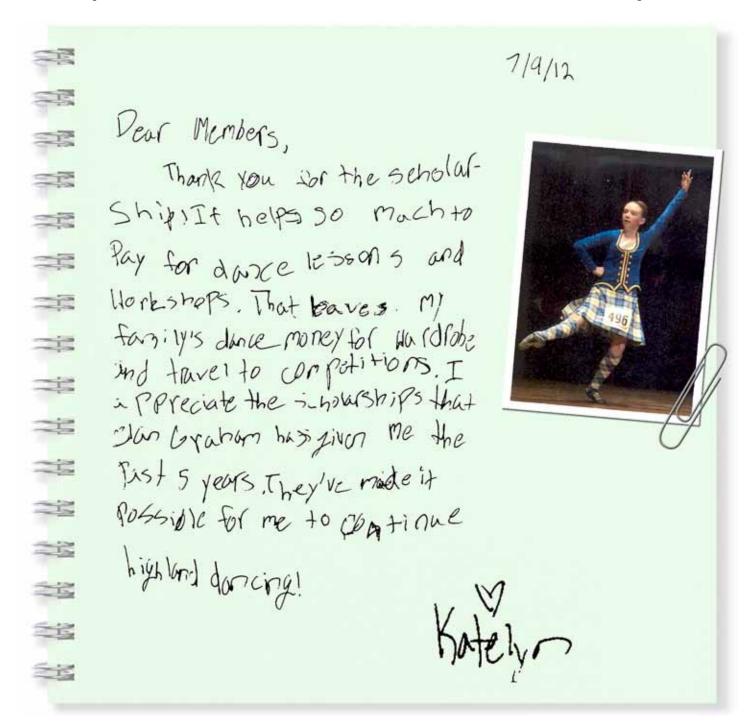


Member Ruth Covington and her family with Kathleen and Camilla Wheeless. Those young Graham boys love muffins and graham crackers!



Fred, Kathleen and Camilla Wheeless, Ellen McDaniel, and Jim Speidel. Kathleen, Ellen and Jim last came to these games 50 years ago!

Young Highland dancer Katelyn Fraker wins scholarship; sends personal note of thanks to Clan Graham Society



Learn more about the annual Scottish Arts Scholarship and download the application form from the Clan Graham Society website at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/society.html#scholarship.

St. Giles Cathedral in Scotland holds special Service of Commemoration for 1st Marquis of Montrose in May 2012

BY MALCOLM McVITTIE

UNITED KINGDOM

A Service of Commemoration was held for the life of **James Graham**, 5th Earl and 1st Marquis of Montrose (1612-1650), at St. Giles Cathedral, in Edinburgh, Scotland, on Monday, May 21, 2012. The Service was led by the Very Reverend **Gilleasbuig Macmillan**, Minister of St. Giles.

There were about 180 present in the congregation, including over 20 clan chiefs either present or represented, such as **Ronald MacDonald** of Keppoch, **The Earl of Airlie**, **Donald Cameron** Yr of Lochiel and several Stewarts including **Sandy Stewart** of Ardvorlich. Professor **Ted Cowan** gave an excellent eulogy. In addition to 20 members of the Graham family, **Janet Dawson** and **Dr. Catriona MacDonald** also attended. **John Craig** was present as well (he is godfather to the **Marquis of Graham**).

The Marquis of Graham fulfilled his role to perfection, giving an excellent reading and laying a wreath.

At the reception in the Signet Library, he also presented to Pipe Major **Alan Johnston**, who composed the pipe tune "The Great Marquis of Montrose," with a wee gift from the Society and received, on behalf of the Society, in return a framed copy of the sheet music.

Unfortunately, the tune will not be performed in this year's Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (REMT) but the Director has promised to give it a special spot next year. The director, **David Allfrey**, has also promised to publish and promote the tune.

The University of Wisconsin-Stout Alumni Choir was also present at the ceremony and sang various hymns in tribute to the Great Marquis of Montrose.

Christine Grahame, MSP, who also attended the Service, had put down a motion before the Scottish Parliament which was debated on Thursday evening (May 17, 2012). The debate lasted for about 30 minutes and was a great credit to the Marquis of Montrose but also to the members of the present Parliament who took part.

To read about the motion on the Scottish Parliament



James Graham, the current Marquis of Graham (left), shows his appreciation to Pipe Major Alan Johnston at the memorial reception for composing "The Marquis of Montrose". Listen to the tune online at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/files/MarquisofMontrose.mp3.

website, go to http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/parliamentarybusiness/28877.aspx?SearchType=Advance&ReferenceNumbers=S3M-07441. Lord Donald Graham was also present at the debate.

Tributes to the Great Marquis continue worldwide in 2012

400 year anniversary of the birth of the 1ST MARQUIS OF MONTROSE 1612 2012

MONTROSE MUSEUM IN SCOTLAND FEATURES EXHIBIT ENTITLED "TO WIN OR LOSE IT ALL" THIS SUMMER

The Montrose Museum in Angus, Scotland, is featuring a special exhibition entitled "To Win or Lose It All" from July 14 - September 22, 2012.

With a great deal of help from 1st Marquis of Montrose Society Chairman Malcolm McVittie, this exhibition is part of the 400th anniversary commemoration year, and Malcolm and the museum curator, Rachel Benvie, have managed to put this on against all the odds and with very little funding.

Secretary **Brian Robertson** reported, "At the Annual General Meeting (AGM), our Society did approve a donation to the museum of £2500 to assist with the costs of the exhibition."

Despite limited financial resources, however, and with the great good will of many of the contributors, the exhibition contains a number of stunning portraits and artefacts which you really should not miss. These include original portraits, personal items which belonged to the Marquis and the blood-stained clothing which he was wearing at the time of his execution. Also on display is Montrose's heart which was removed from his body after his execution although it must be clearly stated that there are two honourable custodians who currently claim to be holding this relic and as yet there are insufficient means to be able to verify which heart is authentic.

Malcolm is due to give three Montrose-related lectures during the time of the exhibition and more information is available at the museum, which is located at Panmure Place Museum Street, Montrose, Angus, DD10 8HF. The website is at http://www.angus.gov.uk/history/museums/montrose/.

The 1st Marquis of Montrose Society will visit the museum on September 9, 2012, as part of its autumn weekend itinerary. Members are encouraged to make an effort to visit the museum sometime during the dates of the exhibition.

For more information about the 1st Marquis of Montrose Society, check out the official website at http://www.montrose-society.org.uk/index.htm.

MONTROSE'S LIFE INSPIRES POEM; FRANKA ROSE WRITES "FOUNDATIONS"

As the Clan Graham worldwide continues to celebrate the 400th birth year of **James Graham**, the Great Marquis, in 2012, one fan recently expressed a tribute to Montrose by writing a poem.

Franka Rose (1958-), who was born in Sardinia, Italy, and moved to Canada when she was 2 years old, was inspired to write "Foundations" after reading extensively about Montrose's life.

"History is a love of mine but never have I become as interested in an individual as I have in James Graham, Marquis of Montrose," explained Franka. "He was many things, a knight, warrior, gentleman, a Lord, kind, generous, husband, father and friend. Many other labels can be attached but mainly he was a man."

Franka admitted that she first learned about Montrose from "a romance novel—of all things—and it was on the very last page that the author mentioned that James Graham was a real man who fought during the Civil Wars in Scotland and was hung and quartered in 1649. I was immediately drawn to find out who the real Montrose was, as the character in the book was ninety percent fictional."

She continued, "When I did a bit of research and looked at all that was written about the man, I did not want to read just anyone's book because there were a few books that were considered fictional. The only two authors I thought worthy of reading. Perhaps there are others but I started with [the book by] the **Rev. Dr. George Wishart**, (Montrose's friend) "Memoirs of The Most Renowned James Graham," published in 1819, and **Mark Napier**'s "Memoirs of Marquis of Montrose" Volumes I and II), published in 1864. These two books or three gave me everything I could want to find out from beginning as a child (Napier) to end, the real man's life."

Read Franka's inspired poem online, as well as other poems written by Montrose himself and Poet Laureate and former Society Bard, **Father Drew McDonald Graham**, at http://www.clan-grahamsociety.org/poetry.html.

More money raised at the AGM auction for Mugdock Castle

BY BARBARA WARREN

BRENTWOOD, TENNESSEE

Thanks to our members who attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Maryvill, Tennessee, in May 2012, sales from the Mugdock Collection items, including our limited edition Montrose 400th anniversary commemorative plates (see the next page) came up to \$870.

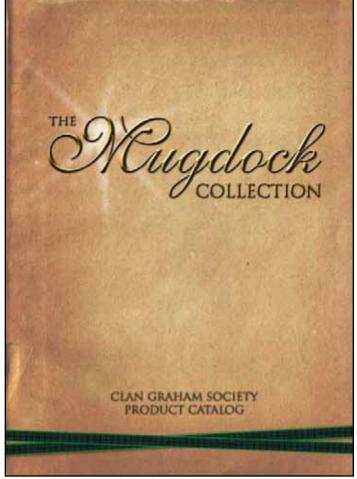
Added to that is the generous donation by **Ellen McDaniel** and her family to the Mugdock Fund of \$514.58. In addition, the Mugdock Auction on Friday, May 18, at the AGM brought in \$1,181.

All total, thanks to the generosity of our members, we raised \$2,565 for the Mugdock Castle Restoration Fund.

See more items on sale in our Mugdock Collection by downloading a catalog from http://www.clangraham-society.org/mugdock.html and help support an historical Graham site.







Fine china, clan badges and more are on sale to help raise money to restore the Mugdock Castle. See the product catalog on the Society website.

Commemorative plates still available in limited quantities

The **Duke and Duchess of Montrose** were presented with a special commemorative plate at the 2012 Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Maryville, Tennessee, as a memento of the 400th birth anniversary of the Duke's ancestor, **James Graham**, the 5th Earl and the 1st Marquis of Montrose.

This limited edition plate is part of the Mugdock Collection, benefitting the restoration efforts of Mugdock Castle. The 7.5-inch plate has two gold bands and features a portrait of the 1st Marquis of Montrose surrounded by the official Clan Graham plant–the *laurel nobilis*.

Cost is only \$25 with a \$7 shipping charge. Order now while supplies last as quantities of this commemorative plate are limited.

For more information, contact **Barbara Warren**, Mugdock Collection administrator, at barbara37027@comcast.net.



Commemorative Plate Order Form

Plate Details: 7 ½ inches with gold band • Cost: \$25 each

Quantity Order	#	SHIPPING ADDRESS
Total	\$	Name:
+ Shipping/Handling	\$ 7*	Street:
*(Note that some china orders may have a higher shipping fee depending on the quantity ordered)		City/State/Zip:

Make check payable to Mugdock Collection and send payment to:

Barbara Warren 1427 Arrowhead Drive Brentwood, TN 37027

Or you may charge your order by contacting Barbara Warren directly at (615) 377-0052.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Rest in Peace: James Madison Graham Sr. September 6, 1938 - April 27, 2012

James Madison Graham Sr., 73, husband of Carol Ann Bradley Graham, of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Friday, April 27, 2012.

Born September 6, 1938, in Inskip, Tennessee, he was the only child of the late **James Lee Graham** and **Virginia May Reed Graham**.

Jim began his career as a structural steel draftsman at the age of 15 and later served with distinction in the Army National Guard. He was a prolific writer and had written several books. Jim was proficient in civil war history. He was a member of the Clan Graham Society, The Knights Templar, reaching the honorary title of Garde Ecosse. He was also a member of the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. Over the years, he taught Sunday school, coached basketball teams, was a Scout leader and led Junior High Youth programs.

He was a devoted father who instilled his love and wisdom into his nine children, 18 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. He will be deeply missed

by his wife of 48 years; his children, Chuck Adkins (Melinda) of Charlotte, North Carolina; Michael Adkins (Leslie) of Columbia, South Carolina; Nancy Carol Kindt (Edward) of Loris, South Carolina; Melissa Salem (Mike) of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina; David Dean Graham of Monroe, North Carolina: Jackie Todd (Joseph) of Little River, South Carolina: Glenn William Graham of Charlotte, North Carolina: James M. Graham Jr. of Little River, South Carolina; and John Alexander Graham (Donna) of Bladenboro, North Carolina; his grandchildren, Meg, Christopher, Kate, Joshua, Jesse, Lauren, Kelly Carol, Madison, Nathan, Patrick, Christian, Benjamin, Emily, Alex, Graham, Zoe, **Matthew** and **Aaron**; and his great-grandchildren, Abby, Chase, Anna, Georgia, Loughlin, Riley and Emily.

Funeral services were held Monday, April 30, 2012, at noon at McAlister-Smith Funeral Home Mt. Pleasant Chapel. Online condolences may be sent to the family via http://www.mcalister-smith.com.

Rest in Peace: George "Skip" M. Graham May 20, 2012

George "Skip" M. Graham passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, May 20, 2012.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Blanche Graham; and his son, Geoffrey Scott Graham. He is survived by his wife, Diane Graham; son, Jason Graham (Anne); and sister, Pat Thorne (Eric).

He was manager of the Commercial Division of Alfa Realty until his retirement. He was past president of the Montgomery St. Andrews Society and the Alabama Highland Games. Skip also served as the MidSouth Regional Convener on behalf of the Clan Graham Society and he will be missed.

The family received friends on Wednesday, May 23, 2012. Graveside services were held on Saturday, May 26, 2012, at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis, Tennessee.

Donations may be made in Skip's memory to the **Edward B. Orio** Memorial Scholarship Fund at the University of Memphis Foundation, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 238, Memphis, TN 38148.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Go "green" with the Grahams and get more news online

Go "green" with the Grahams as a way to be more environmentally and cost conscious; consider receiving this newsmagazine electronically instead of in print via regular "snail mail." Members who already receive black and white hard copies of The Clan Graham News, edited by **Ekena B. Parkinson**, can opt to receive this e-newsmagazine in full color! Canada's newsletter, The Laurel, edited by **Ann Belanger**, is also included in the news site at http://www.clangrahamnewsletter.org.

ADVANTAGES OF GETTING "GREEN" NEWS

- Instant access to current information instead of having to wait to receive the publications in the mail
- Read both the American and Canadian Clan Graham news in full color
- See more photos (and even videos!) from members on the news site that could not fit here
- "click2connect with your clan:" All web and e-mail addresses printed on the PDFs are live links and readers can click on them right on their computer/laptop screen or mobile digital devices (smart phones or tablets) to go directly to the sites
- Keep up with modern communication methods
- Help the Society "save the trees" and money on printing and postage

ACCESSING THE NEWS SITE

For members who have requested to receive The Clan Graham News electronically, they will be notified by Communications Vice President **Wrifton Graham** that the current edition is available for download as a PDF at http://www.clangrahamnewsletter.org.

Please contact Wrifton at Wrifton@BirchRiverGroup. com if there are issues with this website. Members must type in their ID and password to access and download both The Clan Graham News and The Laurel. For ID information, contact the Membership Vice President Cliff Fitzsimmons at celt1@bellsouth.net.

READING THE CLAN GRAHAM NEWS AS TWO PAGES

For best viewing of the PDF spreads on the computer, launch either Acrobat Reader or Preview. In the drop-down menu, go to View and choose Page Display/PDF Display. Then check Two-Up/Two-Pages Continuous.

PRINTING THE PUBLICATIONS

Please be advised that this newsmagazine and The Laurel are color-rich and graphic-intensive documents. For printing the PDF at home, change printer settings to draft mode to save ink.

Or save the PDF on a USB drive, take it to a local print/copy shop and ask to have the newsmagazine printed double-sided on tabloid-sized (11x17") paper (black and white is more cost-effective than color printing) and stapled down the middle as a booklet format. Ideally, the Page Scaling feature should be changed to "None" instead of "Fit to Printable Area" or "Shrink to Fit" before printing the PDF.

MAIN WEBSITE HAS UPDATES

Don't forget to check our website for updates. Select articles in this magazine with more graphics are featured for a limited time on the official Clan Graham Society site. For all the latest news and information, go to http://www.clan-graham.society.org.



We are now on Facebook! Find us at http://www.facebook.com/north.a.graham

ANNOUNCEMENTS

These are general announcements which appear regularly in this section for each edition of The Clan Graham News. Please contact the editor to update the information. Announcements may be found on the website as well at http://www.clan-graham-society.org.

MEMBERS AND OFFICERS REQUESTED TO UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have moved, changed your address or want to know if your contact information is up to date, please notify the Clan Graham Society Membership Vice President **Cliff Fitzsimmons** via email at celt11@comcast.net, by phone at (865) 368-2543 or by regular mail at 2919 Denson Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37921-6671.

GENEALOGY SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GRAHAMS

Nellie Graham Lowry, Clan Graham Society genealogist for the United States, is available to help Society members. You may write to her at 9654 Kessler Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311, or send her an email at LowryLines@aol.com. Be sure to include a couple of first class stamps when requesting information.

MUGDOCK COLLECTION FEATURES CLAN GRAHAM ITEMS FOR SALE

Looking for Clan Graham merchandise or unique Scottish items? Visit our website at http://www.clan-graham-society.org to purchase items to support the Mugdock Foundation. Clan badges and crest pins, tea cups and saucers, fine china and more are on sale, including the limited-edition plate commemorating the 400th birth anniversary of the 1st Marauis of Montrose!

For more information on what is currently available, please contact **Barbara Warren**, Mugdock Collection administrator, by email at barbara37027@comcast. net or by phone at (615) 377-0052.

CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY SPONSORS ANNUAL SCOTTISH ARTS SCHOLARSHIP

The officers of the Clan Graham Society voted to establish a special scholarship to encourage and promote Scottish arts and culture.

Members of the Clan Graham Society and their relatives will be considered first to receive the scholarship funds, but the funds are not restricted to Clan Graham Society members. The application form is downloadable as a Word document from the Clan

Graham Society website at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/society.html#scholarship. The annual deadline is April 30 and is awarded soon thereafter. If you or anyone you know would like to be considered for these funds, or need more information, please contact Kate Graham at kate_graham@mindspring.com or call (770) 978-4232.

BECOME A MEMBER OF "THE LEGACY CIRCLE"

The Legacy Circle is the Clan Graham Society's estate giving program. The objective of the program is to create an endowment, from which the earning will support the operating cost of the Society. Please consider becoming a member of the Legacy Circle Trust by a gift in your will or estate plan. Your support can play a vital role in the future of the Clan Graham Society. Through your generosity, the heritage of the Grahams of Scotland will continue to be passed on to future generations. For more information contact Joel Warren, Legacy Circle administrator, at joel37027@comcast.net or (615) 377-0052.

NEXT DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 15, 2012 FOR THE CLAN GRAHAM NEWS PRINT EDITION

The deadline for the **Winter 2012** edition of The Clan Graham News is **October 15**, **2012**. Refer to the information box on page 2 of this current edition for submission requirements for articles and photos.

Please send items to Editor **Ekena B. Parkinson** at ekenab@yahoo.com. Although email submissions are preferred, items may also be "snail-mailed" to her at 6015 Cedar Path, San Antonio, TX 78249. If photographs need to be returned, include a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage.

PLEASE NOTIFY US IF NEWSMAGAZINES ARE MISSING OR ARE DELIVERED LATE

Any problems with hard copy delivery of The Clan Graham News can be directed to **Beth Stoney** at ECS Data Systems. She coordinates the delivery of our newsmagazine and can be contacted at ecsdatasystems@bellsouth.net.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

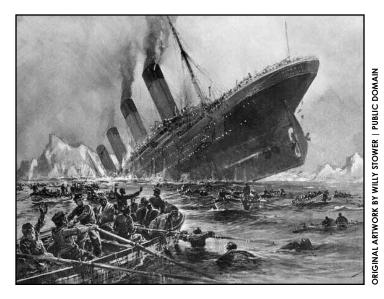
GEORGE EDWARD GRAHAM LISTED AMONG PASSENGERS WHO DIED FROM THE TITANIC

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the *R.M.S. Titanic*. The famous film, "Titanic," starring **Leonardo DiCaprio** and **Kate Winslet**, under the direction of **James Cameron**, was re-released as a 3-D movie. Several museums have showcased in special exhibits recovered artifacts from the *Titanic* in their collections. And documentaries and performances about the *Titanic* still draw large audiences throughout the years.

Rich Graham from Vermont, who watched "Titanic-The Musical," shares that he saw in a theater lobby a list of the passengers on the ill-fated ship. He found the name **George Edward Graham**, who was traveling first class, and did not survive. He was a Canadian traveling back to Winnipeg and was born in 1873.

Rich hopes that this tidbit of information could increase interest in genealogy stories related to the *Titanic* passenger.





George Edward Graham (1873-1912) was a first-class passenger from Canada who did not survive when the *Titanic* sank a century ago.

CLAN CLASSIFIEDS ONLINE

Take advantage of the free Clan Classifieds service (new in 2012) and sell or swap your kilts or Scottish and Graham-related items.

Legacy Circle Chairman **Joel Warren** explains that the Clan Classifieds was established to connect sellers with those interested in purchasing a variety of unique merchandise. To place an ad online at http://www.clan-graham-society.org/classifieds.html, send Joel a digital photo of your item along with a brief description, your name, email address and price at joel37027@comcast.net. Please note that the Clan Graham Society plays no role in negotiating sales or in financial settlement for purchases and accepts no responsibility for the quality of merchandise or the actions of the buyer or seller.

I would like trade my heavy weight modern tartan Graham kilt, circa 1964, for a lighter weight Graham kilt, with a 35-inch waist that will be better in a southern climate. Kilt is 25 inches long and fits 32-36 inch waist and was tailored by Donald McLean Company of Toronto, Canada. Contact Henry N. Graham at hgraham2@carolina.rr.com.

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CLAN GRAHAM SOCIETY OFFICERS

Below is the current roster of officers of the Clan Graham Society. Mailing and email addresses are given for the chieftain and executive officers; email addresses only are given for the appointed officers, trustees, members-at-large, continental convener and regional commissioners. Feel free to contact an officer regarding information on activities or membership.

CHIEFTAIN AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Ekena B. Parkinson

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