



Dabh Ghlaise

The Newsletter of the Clan Douglas Society of North America

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**BACK COVER – List of the
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DOUGLAS MASCOT RAM McVICAR –
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REGENTS & CO-REGENTS WANTED

CDSNA is seeking members willing to serve as Regents & Co-Regents in provinces and states currently un-represented or under-represented by CDSNA. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER of CDSNA willing to share your enthusiasm about Clan Douglas and available to serve as a representative in any of the following states and provinces, contact CDSNA VP Tim Tyler, CDSNA Asst VP Harold Edington, CDSNA Asst VP Mark Peterson, or your current Regent.

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MINNESOTA - Co-Regents (N & S)
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OHIO - Regent
OREGON (South) - Regent
SOUTH CAROLINA – Regents & Co-Regents for events in Myrtle Beach, Charleston, or Greenville
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NEW HAMPSHIRE - Regent
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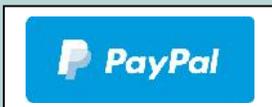
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**How can I renew my membership to CDSNA,
if I missed my local festival?**



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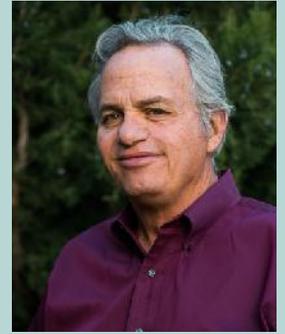
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President's Comments

Greetings,

I read an interesting book a few years ago. *The Time Traveler's Guide to Medieval England: A Handbook for Visitors to the Fourteenth Century*, by Ian Mortimer. More of a travelogue than a history book, it looks at the 14th century as a tourist would see it. The book talked about topics ranging from food and lodging, to crime and sanitation. One of the things it stressed was the need to belong to something larger. The middle ages were a brutal time. In all aspects of life, associations were critical. From business to traveling safely, having a title or family link could be the difference between success and disaster.



The name of Douglas was pretty influential in France and England, as well as in Scotland. Claiming membership in such an important group would certainly benefit the individual. In travel could prevent mishaps on the road that would otherwise beset the unwary. A Douglas clansman could expect preferential treatment in a variety of areas. Being a member was about more than a name or geographic area. It was about being able to rely on your neighbors for help and security. It offered a degree of trust that comes from belonging. Clan meant family, whether by blood or sept, to be a Douglas was something. Given the rank that Douglas held within the Scottish nobility, membership definitely had its privileges.

The clan system was unique in European history. It depended on family ties more than political alliances for support. In fact many of the existing Lords of Scotland have names that include the families that they derive their titles from; Richard Walter John Montagu Douglas Scott, Duke of Buccleuch, and Alexander Douglas Douglas-Hamilton, Duke of Hamilton for example.

While the times have changed the bonds that clan membership provides have not. The ties I have formed because of my membership extend beyond the festivals and events that I participate in. Because of my association with the clan, I now have friends all over the country and have met great people from as far away as Belgium and Spain. The people that the Clan Douglas has brought into my life have enriched it immeasurably. It is my hope that each of you finds the same kind of benefit from your membership as I have.

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, or just to let us know what's happening in your part of the world, don't hesitate to send an email.

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ON THE COVER...

Florida (North) Regent
Marc Hitchins
parading with Ram McVicar.



Lucy & Stuart Ballantyne
of Craigmalloch Farms
with Ram McVicar.

Visit Ram McVicar on Facebook:
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Terri Ventress can throw just about anything – and has 14 world records to prove it

By Doug Williams | Sep 14, 2018 | Special to espnW.com used with the permission of espnW
<http://www.espn.com/espnw/life-style/article/24663876/terri-ventress-throw-just-anything-14-world-records-prove-it>

Terri Ventress wasn't looking for love, but she found it anyway.

There she was at a Scottish festival in Midwest City, Oklahoma, with her husband, Laurence, and two young children. She was focused on managing the kids' strollers and meals while enjoying the music, the food and the people when she heard her name.

"Hey, Terri, I've been watching these athletes over here and I'm going to throw," she recalls her husband saying. "I'm like, 'You're going to throw what?'"

Laurence had been talking to some of the kilted athletes in the Highlands Games competition while watching them toss a variety of heavy objects. And he had decided to try it.



Terri Ventress is a master at the unusual sports of the Highland Games – and at 56, is beating everyone else in her age group.
 Photo by Laurence Ventress/Pioneer Photography.

So, Terri and the kids spent the rest of the afternoon hanging out with their new friends, learning about the sport and watching Laurence actually win his category. When one of those friends invited her to work out with his training group to prep for a local competition in two months, Terri said aye. Then -- surprise again -- she won it.

From that day in May 1997, she's been head over heels for an unusual sport where she flings large stones, logs, Scottish hammers and even hay bales. At just under 6 feet tall, Ventress -- a former competitive swimmer, softball and basketball player and track athlete -- found her perfect athletic calling at age 35.

"I've got long levers and I've always really been athletic, so it's kind of a good fit for me," she says. "But I think, too, I really like having to work hard. I'm not happy if I'm not."

At 56, Ventress puts in the effort every week to keep herself fit. Even after a hip replacement three years ago, she lifts free weights three to four times per week with a trainer as part of her regular regimen. She's stronger and better than ever at what's known as the Scottish Highland Games, or heavy athletics. Ventress won three consecutive world masters championships in her 50-55 age group from 2012 through 2014 and set eight world records. Since returning from hip surgery, she's set six world records in her new age group.

There's a lot she enjoys about the sport, aside from the sweat she has to put into it. Near the top of the list are the people. Many of those she met at that festival 21 years ago are dear friends. She and her husband have been struck, too, by how willing athletes are to help their competitors with advice.

There's also the constant pursuit of the perfect throw. Yes, she has to be strong to heave a caber (log) or heavy stone. But her technique has to be exact and her timing perfect or she could injure herself or send the heavy missile off course. She likens it to hitting a perfect golf shot.

"You know how it feels when you hit that shot that's just beautiful and exactly what you intended?" she asks. "Well, virtually each one of these events is that very same way. The technique is hard enough that [often] things don't come off just the way they should. But then there's that time that everything is timed exactly perfectly and that weight goes flying out of your hands, and it hooks you. It keeps you coming back. So in that way it's like golf. Maybe there's a reason they're both Scottish. We kind of torture ourselves."

Competing in a Highland Games -- which consists entirely of throwing disciplines, either for distance or height -- is an all-day marathon. Each competition goes from morning to late afternoon. Every athlete must do each discipline, usually starting with a throw of the "Braemar" stone -- which weighs about 13 to 18 pounds and has no uniform shape. Other objects thrown range in weight from about 8 pounds to nearly 30. Perhaps the best-known event, though, is the caber toss, with athletes balancing and then throwing a log of about 70 pounds (for women) and 16 feet. "Everyone's seen the log, the telephone pole, right?" she says. "Everybody knows us by that event."

Ventress' favorite -- and possibly best -- event is the sheaf toss, which involves tossing a small simulated hay bale of about 10 pounds over a crossbar at a height similar to what a pole vaulter would clear. Ventress set the open division record for women in 2001. That record was 26 feet, but it was broken two weeks later, and the top women are so much stronger now that the current record is 35 feet.

All the events derive from something in Scottish culture, warfare or farming. Some competitors don't like the sheaf toss. "A lot of them think it's kind of hokey," she says. "What are you doing, throwing hay bales up in the barn? Probably, right. But I think a lot of us really embrace it because it's unique."

To be successful, Highland Games athletes need a combination of strength, explosiveness and technique, plus timing. You can't let go early or late. You need the right release point like a baseball or softball pitcher, particularly with the for-height throws. You can put together a world-record heave, but if it goes wide right or left, you're out of luck.

Ventress and her husband (who had to give up competing because of an injury about five years ago) live in Stillwater, Oklahoma. She recently left Oklahoma State, where she worked five years as a senior design engineer at the New Product Development Center, to launch her own business, which will produce clean nutritional supplements.

Ventress pays a lot of attention to her nutrition -- especially focusing on proteins for strength -- but grew frustrated because so many of the supplements contained chemicals and ingredients she believes are harmful. It's a big leap to start something new, but she says "at this point in my life, I figured it was either now or never."

She takes an analytical view of everything she does, whether in sport or business. She has her masters in chemical engineering and has worked as an engineer in manufacturing and design for about 30 years. Just a few years ago, she started working with a new trainer, James Bullock, whom she wishes she'd met 20 years ago. She started lifting weights when she was 14, but since working with Bullock, who emphasizes free weights, she's stronger than she's ever been. Her three to four sessions a week with him can last an hour to 90 minutes, and she loves her progress.

Over the years, Ventress says she's come to terms with the fact she doesn't need balance in her life. She cites 2014 as an example. After winning the masters age group world titles in 2012 and 2013, it was important to her to win a third straight in Scotland -- the sport's birthplace -- in the city of Inverness.

She says getting that third straight championship "was like everything I was living for." All she did was work, train and compete. All her energy was focused on getting to the top of the podium in Inverness.

"That whole balance thing? That's kind of a myth," she says. "If you're really going for something like that, it affects everything, every day, your focus, your meals, your training."

But, she won the title and had a great vacation in Scotland and Northern Ireland with her husband and mother-in-law to boot. Says Ventress: "It was fantastic."

Because of her new venture, she's not competing as much this year. She'll compete in about five Games in 2018, but in some years, she's done as many as 17. Still, she continues to train hard.

When she received her new hip, her surgeon told her, "You're never going to wear this hip out."

"I thought, 'Challenge accepted!'" she recalls, laughing.



**Terri Ventress on the top of the podium after winning her third consecutive world masters age group championship in Scotland.
Photo by Laurence Ventress/Pioneer Photography.**





If you have not yet seen the movie ...

****SPOILER****

****ALERT****

A TEAM REVIEW featuring *Douglas Trilogy* author Deborah Foulkes and *Discover Scottish Borders* filmmaker Mark Nicol ... with **Dabb Ghlase** Editor Harold Edington

Like so many in the Scottish community, I waited on the edge of my seat for the day to arrive when Netflix would post the movie. On the day it appeared in my feed (and for a few days more), I watched the movie start to finish – 4 times over three nights. I enjoyed the movie – to a point. But something about it didn't seem quite right. I wondered if I was the only one feeling that way and popped onto Facebook to see what others were saying. There were so many opinions but those identifying as 'historians' were the least impressed. What was it about the movie that nagged at historic sensibilities? I decided to ask some experts.

Many of you already know the works of Dr. Deborah Foulkes and her *Douglas Trilogy* books. Deb has been a frequent contributor to this newsletter for years. Less known to members of CDSNA is filmmaker Mark Nicol, producer of *Discover Scottish Borders* videos seen on Facebook.

What follows is a TEAM REVIEW of the movie. If you have not yet seen the movie and prefer to avoid a spoiler, please stop reading now. However, if your curiosity is overwhelming or, if you have already seen the movie, read on.

.....

HE: Greetings, Deb and Mark. I want to thank both of you for participating in this Team Review. Starting with you, Deb ... please give a little background information about your interest in Douglas history and in the movie.

DF: I wrote the Douglas Trilogy, created the website www.mytruthliesintheruins.com to provide further information on the Douglas Clan, including their links to northern Italy beginning in the 8th century. My books started with the life of Sir William le Hardi 1190-1298 in Book One, *MY TRUTH LIES IN THE RUINS*; publishing Book Two, *IN THE SHADOW OF MY TRUTH* covered the next generation highlighting Sir James Douglas 1298-1330; with the completion of Book Three *MY TRUTH A MIST IN TIME*, for the period 1330-1400, the late Lt. Col. Gawain Douglas, DFC, FSAScot submitted my name in recognition of my extensive research that I might become a Fellow in the Society of Antiquaries Scotland. Further, I have been interviewed on NBC, the ION network as well as BBC Scotland speaking as a recognized expert on such topics as Medieval Tower (Castle) Defenses; while elaborating on the true history derived from original documents.

HE: Thank you, Deb. And Mark... please, tell us about your interests and work.

MN: I am a historian and filmmaker based in the Scottish Borders. I have lived in the Scottish Borders most of my life. I am very passionate about bringing the history of this area back to life as I feel it is very overlooked. My films concentrate on the history, mystery and folklore of the region. The full collection of videos can be seen at <https://discoverscottishborders.com/>.

HE: Since you both have a wealth of knowledge about the history and area portrayed in the movie, I am eager to hear your thoughts about the recent Netflix movie, *Outlaw King*. The movie has received very mixed reviews with criticisms about what IS included and what IS NOT. What did the movie get right?

DF: The costumes were great; the landscape was terrific; the fabulous use of Jessie the Deerhound, the Royal Dog of Scotland. The movie displayed that Brus suffered great losses of family and loved ones and that his men were incredibly loyal to him and his ideas (freedom is not free).

MN: I think in general most of the history was pretty good. As a filmmaker myself I know it's impossible to get every single detail in there every time. For example Bruce's wife wasn't hung in a cage but his sister was. So to convey the emotions against the perpetrators for committing this act but without introducing this new character of Bruce's sister, they achieved it.

HE: What did the movie get wrong? And, if you both don't mind, I would like to save the final battle scene at Loudon Hill for later.

DF: While this was one of the best movies for costumes the use of black for mourning was wrong. The color of mourning at Court was always white until the 1530's. Second, Brus and his marriage with de Burgh were great for the movie but he openly had illegitimate children while she was being held in England and the offspring received recognition and lands. I don't feel offended by this liberal interpretation of his marriage but Barbour's *The Brus* clearly depicted the woman in 1306 at Scone during the ceremony to crown the King of Scots as "playing as kings and queens", a rather snide, disparaging attitude that was noticed by all in attendance according to Barbour.

The manufactured love affair between Brus and de Burgh seemed to be the vehicle to express the soul development of his flawed character as he evolves into a man who was a great leader and lover. The flaw in the movie was that all the characters seemed shallow and the dialog was choppy as were the scenes. And yet the fight for freedom which marked the Scottish Wars for National Independence was barely visible. The Declaration of Arbroath, the letter to the Pope was their stated position (and I quote from my translation): *If but a hundred of us yet remain alive we will not surrender to the English. For it is not for glory, nor riches nor honors that we fight but for freedom and that we would not give up but with our lives.*

MN: I think the character of Bruce was almost overshadowed by Douglas. Even the acting made Bruce seem a bit sterile whereas Douglas had soul and character. Maybe I am biased as I have been interested in Douglas for years mainly because of his strong connections to the Scottish Borders. I particularly like the way Douglas was brought to the fore and hope, if there is a sequel, it will focus even more on Douglas.

HE: Mark mentions the character that so many of us were waiting to see: James Douglas. I thought the movie underplayed Douglas and ignored the history between Bruce and Douglas. As a Douglas historian, Deb, what is your take?

DF: James Douglas was depicted in some scenes as some crazed warrior who did not know Brus. Brus came with Fire and Sword in 1297 to Douglas Castle knowing the Sir William le Hardi was at Irvine Water for a muster to fight the English. James was ten when Brus' men sacked the castle and made off with a lot of Douglas booty. And James' step mother grew up in Essex, married a friend, noble known to the Brus family in Writtle, William de Ferrers; it was a small world in 1297. But this bit about no one knowing anyone was foolish. And....we should remember James was in France until around 1304 when he returned to serve Bishop Lamberton at St. Andrews. He clearly was a visionary about military strategy from all the battles recounted in Barbour's *The Brus*. He certainly heard about the Battle of the Golden Spurs, the Battle at Courtrai where Belgium beat the French on horse by using two techniques was huge deal: compressing the battlefield to thwart the advantage of French knights on barded horses; using on foot with pikes to stop the attack. He would have used that strategy, advising at Loudon Hill and later, Bannockburn. The entire premise of James serving Brus as some crazed warrior and simply being some lackey following the king's orders is silly. James was a true military strategist; the battle at Lintalee depicted in both documents and the Barbour contemporary poem, exemplified his military prowess; his success using only two hundred men at arms against an army of 10,000 English proved his brilliant use of military acumen. Douglas' father's martyred end was the incident that drove him to become Scotland's most beloved knight. Robert Brus would have been a less successful king without the brilliant military achievements of James Douglas accompanied by his brother at Carlisle where James almost died; or at Roxburgh Castle or into Myton on Swale...the list goes on...

HE: And the scenes of the Battle of Loudon Hill... where do we begin? I believe the fighting portrayed was intense – perhaps more than some may be able to stomach – but do you agree with the director's vision? I was disappointed with the ending. Douglas would NEVER have allowed such an opportunity to exact vengeance on England to walk away from the battlefield.

DF: In my opinion, the Battle at Loudon Hill was ridiculous. If Prince Edward was there and not in England, had he been caught the war was over: the ladies would have been returned to Scotland, the ransom would have been in gold and it would have made Scotland incredibly rich while all Scottish lands would have been returned to Scots. Also the battle strategy was a farce. Two hundred years later a similar situation arose: James IV decided to dismount and fight as king, leading his men in hand to hand combat against the English. Bell the Cat, Archibald Earl of Angus told the king before the battle that he was ridiculous to employ that strategy, that he was surely projecting his own doom. James IV ordered the earl off the battlefield and Bell the Cat was the only Douglas of over a hundred to survive. James IV died there too, of course.

HE: You bring up a good point, Deb. Had Edward II been at Loudon Hill and captured or killed, there would have been no need for Bannockburn several years later.

DF: Bannockburn; how can you have a story about Brus without that great battle? The only time the Scots ever defeated the English on the field.

MN: It seems to me like the movie was teeing us up for a sequel. The battle of Bannockburn would more than likely be the pinnacle of the series. Again maybe I am biased but I would have included....Douglas's assault on Roxburgh Castle, Douglas taking Berwick back into Scottish hands in 1318, some of Douglas's raids into Northern England and Douglas's pursuit of Edward after the battle of Bannockburn.

HE: So we all are in agreement that a sequel is needed to carry the story through Bannockburn.

MN: Surely there must be, I will be very disappointed if not.

DF: I hope they stop right there and that we can develop a movie on The Black Douglas.

HE: YES! A Black Douglas movie would be awesome; and with the current movement for Scottish Independence, perhaps timely. And speaking of timely movies... Do you see *Outlaw King* having the same impact for Scots and Scotland as *Braveheart*?

MN: I feel the film has more of a niche appeal and does not quite have the dramatic, sweeping, epic feel to it that *Braveheart* achieved. I don't know how to do that but there was definitely something missing.

DF: *Braveheart* was less accurate historically but it was a much better movie. It started the modern movement for Scottish Independence where the Scots were restored to their own Parliament. The Stone of Destiny stolen by Edward in 1296 was also returned. It was a different time for Scots than it is right now...and *Outlaw King* while really nice in scenery and costumes -- in fact one could feel as if they were in medieval Scotland with most every scene -- it was not a heartfelt achievement. The idea of freedom seemed lost in the abrupt scenes and confusing flow; but the real Brus was about freedom...as was Wallace. Why else risk everything you own and love?

HE: And with that, we will bring this to a close. I want to thank both of you again for participating in this Team Review. If any reader has a question or comment about this review or about *Outlaw King*, in general, feel free to send a **Letter to the Editor** via my email: clan.douglas@yahoo.com. And don't be surprised, if your question/comment appears in a future issue of the newsletter.



***ROBERT the BRUCE* movie coming in 2019**

Angus MacFayden will reprise his role as Robert the Bruce in the upcoming *Robert the Bruce* movie set for later in 2019. Although the film has been reported to be a sequel to *Braveheart* (1995), the film is considered to be more of a spin-off to *Braveheart* as the story does not revolve around William Wallace, who died at the end of the 1995 film, but focuses more on Robert the Bruce, years after William Wallace's execution.

'Thai wend the Douglas and his men/Had bene oxin': The Capture of Roxburgh Castle, 1314

Originally a blogpost by Dr. Callum Watson. Reprinted with permission.

It wes rycht myrk withoutyn dout,
The-queheter ane on the wall that lay
Besid him till his fere gan say,
'This man thinkis to mak gud cher,'
And nemmyt ane husband tharby ner,
'That has left all his oxyn out.'
The tother said, 'It is na dout
He sall mak mery tonycht thocht thai
Be with the Douglas led away.'
Thai wend the Douglas and his men
Had bene oxin, for thai yeid then
On handis and fete ay ane and ane.

~ J. Barbour, *The Bruce*, Bk. 10, ll. 388-399

On 19 Feb in 1314, James Douglas - already a formidable guerrilla leader but not quite yet the key member of Robert Bruce's inner circle that he would become - made a daring bid to seize Roxburgh Castle in the dead of night. Although this may have been a bit of private enterprise on Douglas's part - not sanctioned by Bruce himself - the successful capture of Roxburgh precipitated a Scottish offensive that culminated in the Battle of Bannockburn in June. The incident is however perhaps most remarkable for the somewhat unorthodox tactics Douglas seems to have employed in taking the castle, which today's blog post will examine.



The ruins of Roxburgh Castle, on the River Teviot, with the more modern Floors Castle in the background. Before the bitter conflicts between Scotland and England in the fourteenth- and fifteenth-centuries, the rich and fertile valleys surrounding the Rivers Tweed and Teviot were the heartland of royal power in Scotland. During this period, Roxburgh had been one of the key royal fortresses and residences, and the future King Alexander III had been born there in 1241. It appears to have been left unoccupied after 1314 until the English re-fortified it following their victory at the Battle of Halidon Hill in 1333, recovered by the Scots in 1342, and then reoccupied by the English after the Battle of Neville's Cross in 1346. From this point onward the castle would remain in English hands for over a century. Several attempts were made by the Scots to recover Roxburgh during that time, and although the loyalties of the denizens of Teviotdale would shift significantly over this period the castle remained resolutely English. In 1385, a joint Franco-Scottish force considered laying siege to the castle, but disharmony within this army meant that no attempt was ever mounted. In 1436, King James I's efforts to retake the castle were such a dismal failure that it inadvertently gave his enemies the confidence to assassinate him the following year! In 1460, James's son - James II - was killed laying siege to Roxburgh when one of his own cannon literally blew up in his face. The siege continued, either under the command of George Douglas, 4th earl of Angus, or the late king's wife Mary of Gueldres, and led to the demolition of the castle.

Image source: http://www.castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/lothian_borders/roxburgh_castle.html

Tightening the Noose: South-east Scotland in early 1314

At the start of 1314, Bruce could reasonably lay claim to territorial dominance in most of Scotland, excluding the formidable castle at Stirling and the south-east. The momentum of the war was now beginning to definitely favour Bruce, and so in response as early as November 1313 King Edward II of England was discussing plans for raising an army with the intention of invading Scotland again and trying to bring Bruce to battle. A decisive victory on the battlefield - it was hoped - might end the threat posed by King Robert - especially if he could be captured or killed - and could shift the momentum back in England's favour, much as Falkirk had done in 1298. Edward's hopes may also have been given a boost by the possibility that Bruce was suffering another bout of the illness that had nearly killed him in 1308. This is not certain, but the absence of the usually energetic and active king from any of the Scottish activities in 1314 before Bannockburn may indicate that he was incapacitated during this period. The immediate response of the Scottish royal administration to the threat of renewed English invasion is not easy to assess, since the exact chronology of events in early 1314 has been somewhat garbled by the available sources. What we can say for certain is that whatever the 'official' line was, Douglas intended to seize Roxburgh before the English had an opportunity to relieve or resupply the garrison. In 1311, the garrison at Roxburgh was stated to consist of 50 men-at-arms, 18 crossbowmen, 29 hobelars (lightly-armed horsemen would could travel quickly to trouble spots and fight either on horseback or on foot), and 61 archers, though this number may have diminished slightly by 1314. The garrison was commanded by a Gascon knight named Sir Guillemin de Fiennes, who seemed to have struggled to maintain discipline among his men. During a period of truce in 1313 Scots loyal to Edward II complained to the king of the garrison's rough treatment of the local population, and both English and Scottish accounts of the capture of the castle give the impression that laxity among the defenders contributed strongly to the Scots' success.

'How Roxburch throu sutelte/Or ony craft mycht wonnyn be': Taking the castle

According to Barbour, in anticipation of the attempt on Roxburgh Douglas set one Syme or Simon of Ledhouse ('Syme off the Leidhous') to work fashioning rope ladders with which the Scots could scale the castle walls. The Lanercost chronicler describes these objects in detail, observing:

'They were of wonderful construction, as I myself, who write these lines, saw with my own eyes. For the Scots had

made two strong ropes as long as the height of the wall, making a knot at one end of each cord. They had made a wooden board also, about two and half feet long and six inches broad, strong enough to carry a man, and in the extremities of the board they made two holes through which the two ropes could be passed; then the cords, having been passed through as far as the knots, they had made two other knots in the ropes eighteen inches higher, and above these they placed another board and so on to the end of the ropes...Two men lifted the ropes and boards with a spear...over the wall...'

Once the ladders were made, the trick would be to get close enough to the walls to hang the ladders off them without the garrison spotting them. The Scots therefore approached the castle under cover of darkness, and Barbour adds the detail they covered themselves with 'blak frogis' ('black cloaks') and advanced on all fours to better mask their approach. Barbour also includes a rather dubious but entertaining interlude in which two guards patrolling the walls spot the Scots but mistake them for stray cattle in the gloom. 'This husbandman, seeking to make merry, has left his cattle out', observes one, while his comrade responds, with unknowing irony, that 'he will make merry tonight, but in the morning the Douglas will have led his cattle away!' The inept duo then blunder away into



A happy little cow reading a psalter from the so-called Bohun Hours and Psalter, housed at the British Library. While the ironic exchange between the guards who mistake Douglas and his men for stray cattle is surely Barbour's invention, the tactic of disguising themselves with black cloaks or cowhides and staying low to approach the walls in secret is believable enough.

Image source:

<https://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/ILLUMIN.ASP?Size=mid&IllID=55803>

the night, leaving Douglas and his men to erect their rope ladders and gain entry to the castle. Since 19th February 1314 was Shrove Tuesday - the day before the beginning of Lent - the Scots apparently found most of the garrison partying in the great hall, making the most of it before the Lenten fast kicked in, and thus the Scots were able to quickly subdue them. Fiennes and a few others were able to hole up in one of the towers and held out for a few days, during which time Fiennes was badly injured by an arrow to the face. With no apparent hope of rescue and their captain fatally wounded, the remaining defenders agreed to cease their resistance in return for the Scots allowing them to return to England unharmed.

'That tour and wall rycht to the ground/War tumblit in a litill stound': Aftermath

While Douglas's action in February 1314 may have initially lacked official sanction, the royal administration was quick to seize upon this success. The king's younger brother Edward Bruce, earl of Carrick, was dispatched to oversee the dismantling of Roxburgh's defences, a commonly-used tactic of the Scots designed to prevent the English from easily re-occupying it. Edinburgh Castle may already have been under siege by this point (again, the exact chronology is uncertain) but if not it was besieged by the Scots shortly afterwards. Within a month Edinburgh fell, yet again to a mixture of strength and cunning. This time, the plaudits for the capture of the castle went to King Robert's nephew Thomas Randolph, earl of Moray. Barbour claims that Randolph was inspired to seek a suitably devious way to gain access to the castle by the example set by Douglas at Roxburgh, and there may be a grain of truth in this. With Roxburgh and Edinburgh now gone, the only significant English possessions left in Scotland were Stirling and Berwick, and Stirling too - now dangerously isolated - was placed under siege. Towards the end of May a deal reached between the garrison at Stirling and the besiegers, stating that the castle would be surrendered if it were not relieved by St John the Baptist's Day (24th June). This agreement added a new sense of urgency to Edward's efforts to muster an army and bring it into Scotland, and would ultimately lead the English to their embarrassing defeat at the Battle of Bannockburn.



Dr. Callum Watson is an historian, historical blogger, and an active member of the **Late Antique and Medieval Postgraduate Society (LAMPS)**, a student-led society at the University of Edinburgh. He currently works as a Battle Coordinator at the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre just outside Stirling. As Dr. Watson describes it, "This somewhat pompous title belies a job that mostly amounts to guiding visitors around the high tech 3D exhibition at the Centre."

A number of his historical blogposts can be viewed @ <https://drallumwatson.blogspot.com/>
You can contact Dr. Callum Watson @... drcallumwatson@gmail.com



James Douglas, depicted among several other significant figures from the First War of Scottish Independence, in the magnificent processional frieze at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in Edinburgh. Although he may have played something of an equivocal role in the first eighteen months or so of Bruce's reign (a fact usually ignored in popular histories of the period), Douglas had been a committed Bruce partisan since at least 1307. He of course had little option, since his ancestral lordship of Douglas had been granted by King Edward I to Sir Robert Clifford, and the English king could not therefore return it to Douglas without alienating an experienced and capable war leader. Douglas in a sense emerged in the period before Bannockburn as a kind of successor to William Wallace, leading a fearsome guerrilla war out of Ettrick Forest, an area into which it was easy for the Scots to disappear and difficult for the English to pursue them. It was not until Bannockburn that Douglas was knighted by Bruce, and from this point on he became one of the key figures in Bruce's royal administration. Subsequent histories - particularly *The Bruce* - have tended to emphasise the close personal relationship between Bruce and Douglas, and it is difficult to explain the degree of patronage bestowed on Douglas by the king without supposing a genuine affection between them. Following the king's death in 1329, Douglas took Bruce's embalmed heart on crusade to Spain, where he died at the Battle of Teba in 1330, adding to the impression that the two were inseparable in life and death.

Image source:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:War_of_Independence_figures_by_Wm_Hole.JPG

which subsequently cost him greatly. Following his brother's early death, he became tutor to his nephews, the infant sons of Lord Maxwell, and was then known by the title "Master of Maxwell," wielding the mighty forces of the family. During the reign of the Queen and the regency that followed, Sir John called them to arms many times. He married Agnes Herries, eldest daughter and heiress to Lord Herries, and through her came the vast estates of that family to the Maxwells. In 1566, Sir John became Lord Herries, and two years later Queen Mary spent her last days on Scottish soil under his protection.

Lord Maxwell, Sir John's brother, had been married to Beatrice Douglas, granddaughter of James III, daughter and co-heiress to the fourth Earl of Morton. From this alliance, the second and posthumous son, John, eighth Lord Maxwell, was able to push home his legitimate claim to the Earldom, which he secured in 1581. John Maxwell, Earl of Morton, was a less judicial man than his uncle and was often in trouble for his open defiance of the Regent and later King James VI. He was a devout catholic at a time when most of his church were very discreet in their devotions. His untimely adherence to the popish cause lead him to travel to the Low Countries and thence on to Spain where great preparations were being made for the Armada. On his return to Scotland, he roused his loyal followers around his new banner which now incorporated the double headed imperial eagle of the Holy Roman Empire, it being his belief that Spain would attack England through Scotland and so re-establish the old faith in both the kingdoms. Alas for Morton, King James did not share his views and summoned him to Edinburgh where he was imprisoned in Blackness Castle. After the fiasco of the Armada, Morton was released to return home to the feud with the Johnstones which cost him his life at the battle of Dryfe Sands.

His son, also John, was even less disposed to leading a quiet life than his father and greatly endangered the family's estates by his relentless pursuit of revenge for his fathers death. This eventually led him to murder the Johnstone chief, an act for which he was eventually executed. His younger brother Robert was restored in 1620 to the "lands, rents living, teinds, offices and dignities" that belonged to his predecessors. This last patent set forth that Maxwell should go by the title of Earl of Nithsdale. Unlike his brother, Nithsdale was a man of peace. He ended the feud between the Maxwells and Johnstones when he "choppit hands" with Johnstone on 17th of June 1623 before the Privy Council.

The Earl of Nithsdale zealously supported the Royalist cause during the Civil War, and he garrisoned his castles of Caerlaverock and Thrieve in the Kings name, holding out to besieging forces for thirteen weeks. When no relief could be sent, the Earl, with King Charles' approval, surrendered on very favourable terms. However, the nobleman was siezed in 1643, the following year, and he died in exile on the Isle of Man. His son Robert, second Earl of Nithsdale, was restored in 1647 by an Act of Parliament, but the estates of the family were so heavily burdened from losses sustained during the Civil War that he was forced to sell parts of the vast inheritance. The second Earl had no children, and the Earldom passed to his kinsman John Maxwell, Lord Herries, great grandson of the great John, Lord Herries. William, Fifth and last Earl of Nithsdale was a Jacobite supporter. He "came out" in the 1715 rebellion and was taken prisoner after the capitulation at Preston. He was taken to the Tower of London and brought to trial for High Treason in the House of Lords. After pleading guilty, he was sentenced to death by the Lord Chancellor. On the night before his execution he escaped from the Tower wearing women's clothing, in a daring plan devised and carried out by his devoted wife. He died in the exiled Jacobean court in Rome in 1744. His only son was restored to the now heavily indebted estates but not the dignities. When he died without male heirs in 1776, the chiefdom passed via the Maxwells of Breconside to a distant cousin, the George Maxwell of Carruchan, whos line died out with his grandson William in 1863. Since then the Maxwells have remained a family without a chief.

The Maxwells once held the title of the Earldom of Morton. Clan Maxwell at Scotsweb gives the following information about the struggles between the Douglas and Maxwell families over the control of this earldom.

After the 6th Lord Maxwell, the Maxwells were at feud with the powerful Clan Douglas over the Earldom of Morton, which the 7th Lord Maxwell regarded as his inheritance. The 7th Lord Maxwell's grandmother was Beatrix, daughter of James Douglas, 3rd Earl of Morton. After the execution of the regent James Douglas, 4th Earl of Morton, in 1581 this earldom was bestowed upon Maxwell, but in 1586 the attainder of the late earl was reversed and he was deprived of his new title. He had helped in 1585 to drive the royal favorite James Stewart, Earl of Arran, from power.

Wikipedia's article on the *Earl of Morton* states the inheritance issue more clearly.

The Douglasses of Dalkeith are descended from Andrew Douglas of Herdmanston (d.b. 1277), younger son of Archibald I, Lord of Douglas (fl. c. 1198-1238). He was succeeded by his son William Douglas of Herdmanston, a signatory of the Ragman Roll in 1296. William of Herdmanston's son, James Douglas of Lothian succeeded his father and produced two sons, Sir William Douglas and Sir John Douglas. Sir William Douglas, known as the Knight of Liddesdale or the Flower of Chivalry obtained the privileges of the barony of Dalkeith in 1341. Following his murder at the hands of his godson William Douglas, 1st Earl of Douglas, the barony of Dalkeith passed to his nephew, James Douglas, 1st Lord Dalkeith. James Douglas was confirmed in this position when his title was ratified by the Earl of Douglas prior to 1370.

The 4th Lord Dalkeith succeeded to his estates upon the resignation of his father c. 1457 and in 1458 was raised to the peerage as Earl of Morton. Lord Dalkeith was then a title held by the Earls of Morton as subsidiary until the 7th earl, who sold it with its estates to the Buccleuch family. It was the courtesy title for the eldest son and heir until then. While the earldom was attained between 1581 and 1586, the nephew-in-law of the 4th earl (also grandson of the 3rd earl), John Maxwell, 7th Lord Maxwell called himself "5th Earl of Morton". Lord Maxwell's title of Morton, which had been revoked in 1585, was revived in 1587 and 1592, so that both men, Lord Maxwell and the 6th Earl of Morton, were in possession, and a conflict arose; and though - at the time of the 7th Earl of Morton - John, 8th Lord Maxwell (c. 1586-1613), also claimed the earldom, he was attained in 1609 and his rights then failed, his titles and estates being restored in 1618 to his brother Robert, with the title of Earl of Nithsdale (1620) in lieu of Morton.

Maxwell members can learn more about the Maxwell surname from the *Clan Maxwell Society of the USA* website.

Sources:

Clan Maxwell @ Scotweb. <http://www.scotweb.co.uk/info/maxwell/>

Clan Maxwell Society of the USA Website. <http://clanmaxwellusa.com/brief.htm>

Wikipedia: *Earl of Morton*. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earl_of_Morton



Kirkland, with variations Kirkeland, Kirtland and others, was accepted by CDSNA as a sept in July 1985. Kirkland is also a sept of Clan Maxwell.

Kirkland is a surname with the simple meaning of "land belonging to the Kirk (Church)". There are many places of this name in Dumfries, Ayr, Lanark, Stirling, etc., from which the surname may have been derived.

A variant of the surname Kirkland is *Kirtland*, which is also a sept of Maxwell. While it is unwise to form relational determinations only through heraldic arms in our modern day, the arms of Kirtland make for an interesting conversation.

Without more documentation, the relationship between Kirkland and Douglas remains uncertain. More research into this surname is recommended.



**REMINDER: CDSNA SCHOLASHIP APPLICATIONS
ARE DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 1.**



Flowers of the Forest

Flowers of the Forest is an ancient Scottish folk tune typically played to honor fallen soldiers. Our **Flowers of the Forest** tradition as a clan is to pay tribute to our own “fallen soldiers”, our extended Clan Douglas family members.

Contact your local Regent, one of our Clan Douglas Officers, or the Newsletter Editor to submit a tribute.



Douglass Byrd Talley January 6, 1938 - December 25, 2018

Doug Talley passed away on December 25 following a long illness. He was born January 6, 1938, in Washington, DC, the eldest son of William Edgar Talley and Helen Douglass Talley. Mr. Talley graduated from Georgia Military Academy in College Park, GA in 1956 and enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He attended Class A Hospital Corps School and Class C Field Medical Service School, and Class B Independent Duty Hospital Corps School. In 1958, Mr. Talley was attached to 2nd Marine Division; served with 1st Battalion 2nd Marines during operation in Beirut in 1958. He was attached to 3rd Force Recon Battalion on Okinawa in 1961; served with 3rd Marines in Okinawa and View Nam in 1962 and 1963. He later re-enlisted into U.S. Marine Corps in 1962 as Gunnery SGT; was promoted to Capt. U.S. Marine Corps (Battlefield Commission) in Viet Nam in 1965. He was promoted to Major U.S. Marine Corps in 1966, and commanded 3rd Recon Battalion. Mr. Talley co-authored the first Physician Assistant curriculum for Duke University. After he left the Marine Corps, he ran the Barn Dinner Theater in Marietta for several years. Mr. Talley was a member of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem for 36 years. He spear-headed a project, called Project Afghanistan, to ship 22 tons of school supplies to Afghanistan in 2003. Mr. Talley achieved the Dignity of Grand Cross, and was inducted into the Order of Merit, and rose to the rank of Grand Commander. Mr. Talley was a Life Member of Clan Douglas Society, a member of the John Collins Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution, a member of the Raymond G. Davis Post of Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a member, with his wife Sylvia, of Temple Sinai Atlanta.



Mr. Talley is survived by Sylvia Talley, his wife of 37 years, his three children, Jim Talley of Bowie, MD, Chris Talley (Hilda) of Bowie, MD, Cathryn Lacek (Gary) of Quantico, VA, grandchildren Jessica Talley, Sarah Lacek, and Deanna Talley, brother Jeffrey Talley (Joyce) of Marietta, GA, sister Judy Purdy (John) of Duluth, GA, many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was buried with Military honors at the Georgia National Cemetery in Canton, GA on Monday, December 31. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that Mr. Talley's life be remember with contributions to Woodward Academy, or the Raymond G. Davis Foundation of Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem.



From **Hector the Hero**, a classic lament penned by Scottish composer and fiddler James Scott Skinner...

***O rest thee brave heart in thy slumber
forgotten shall ne'er be thy name
the love and the mercy of heaven be thine
our love thou must ever claim***

***to us thou art Hector the hero
the chivalrous dauntless and true
the hills and the glens and the hearts of a nation
Re-echo the wail for you***

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Kirkin' of the Tartan; First Presbyterian Church Duluth, Minnesota -- November 18, 2018

This evening was the Blessing--Kirkin of the Tartan and Evensong at First Presbyterian Church. The service reviewed why the Blessing was important to the Scots. The English were now allowing the wearing of the kilt, thus acknowledging of the tartan. "Of course, "the minister was late" for the service. The Church was not heated as the lore says, so dancing took place to keep warm--The Half Real of Tulloch.

The Beadle and minister follow were piped in. Judd Johnston and I played the offertory--Ode to Joy with harmony. High Tea followed as well as Highland Dancing.

John (Jock) M. Glendenning, Jr.
MN (North) Regent



James Agnew named new CDSNA Regent for Maryland

Greetings CDSNA Members and Friends,

My name is James Agnew and I have taken the position as the new Regent for the State of Maryland starting in 2019. I am looking Forward to bringing Clan Douglas representation to the highland games listed below in 2019. The locations in Maryland are both north, east, and west which should enable everyone to be able to attend one of the highland games and visit myself and my assistants (a.k.a my grown up kids!) We are going to have an upgraded and more modern look while retaining the older attributes, so I hope you join us to see what we have in store?

On a personal note, I have been married for 22 years and have 3 children. Two of them attend the games with me and lend support. I currently work in the technology/wireless industry and have been in that field for the last 20 years. Looking Forward to sharing more with each of you. See you soon!

Southern Maryland Celtic Festival:

Saturday April 27th from 10AM to 6PM at Jefferson Patterson Park. 10515 Mackall Road St. Leonard, MD 20685

Fair Hill Scottish Games:

Saturday May 18th from 8am to 6pm at Fair Hill Race Track in Elkton, MD. 4600 Telegraph Road Elkton, MD 21921

Mid-Maryland Celtic Festival:

June 2019. Date and Time TBA. Mount Airy Fire Company Fair Grounds. 1003 Twin Arch Road Mt. Airy, MD 21771



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

CENTRAL FLORIDA SCOTTISH GAMES Winter Springs, Florida – January 19-20



The 42th Annual Central Florida Scottish Games were again held in Winter Springs, Florida, January 19 & 20, 2019. Saturday morning was cold and windy, but cleared and warmed a bit by the afternoon. With the Good Lord's guidance, Sunday resulted in a warmer and sunnier day. One might think it a late April weekend, in Scotland. In all, we learned the weekend attendance was just above 35,000.

Close to 70 clans were represented in their tents along clan row. These games are never at a loss for clan representation. Given the recent release of the movie "The Outlaw King", the Bruce tent and our Douglas tent had a lot of visitors.

We were saddened this year by the loss of our Past National Clan President, George Douglas who passed away this past October 19, 2018. Shirley Douglas, George's wife and our recently retired National Clan Treasurer, did not join us either. It is a long drive alone. Both Shirley and George have done so much in building Clan Douglas to its current level and involvement. We clan members owe a great deal of gratitude and thanks to this couple who have been stalwart leaders in our clan for decades.

Randy Bartle, our clan's South Georgia Regent, joined his daughter Tonya Tharp, his brother Rev. Ed Bartle, and Ed's son, Daren Bartle. We always greatly appreciate The Bartle's representing our clan in our tent and on parade.



Life Members Jeff Sparks and Mark Hill

Life members Jeff Sparks and Mark Hill, along with their wives Mona and Sally, brightened up our clan tent and brought some goodies, including homemade shortbread that could have won the competition, had they been entered. Next year, Mona, you will prevail.

Joe and Justin Douglas were standing tall, marching in the parade, and helping greatly in answering questions about our clan with many of the curious visitors.

It is always a treat to have Allison Morton Painter in our clan tent. Allison is a knowledgeable and important member of our Florida clan's presence. She had to leave early on Saturday for that evening she was attending a military ball with her significant other - Matt Sinclair. Later this Spring, Matt may be deploying to the Middle East with his US Army unit. Matt will be in our prayers for a successful deployment and a safe return.



CDSNA Treasurer Tom Douglas

Member Sharon Acosta, with her son Patrick, joined us for most of the day. She has an exciting summer ahead in that she will be visiting Scotland for most of the month of June. A trip to Douglas Village is definitely on her agenda.

Many of our Douglas Clan members were present and helpful around our tent. **Special Thank You** to Mark Hill and Jeff Sparks who were there both Saturday and Sunday.

Additionally, most marched with us in the noon Parade of Clans. They included; Tom Douglas (CDSNA new National Treasurer), Joe & Justin Douglas, Allison Morton Painter, Tonya Tharp, Randy Bartle (CDSNA Georgia Regent), Rev. Ed Bartle, Daren Bartle, Sharon Acosta and her son Patrick, Jeff & Mona Sparks, Mark & Sally Hill, and Dawn Douglas. To anyone not mentioned, please forgive my oversight.

We would be remiss if we did not mention that our National Treasurer, Tom Douglas, recently chaired a Robert Burn's Night Dinner in his home area (The Villages, of Florida). Complete with Haggis accompanied by bagpipes, this affair included more than 130 brave and respectful souls.



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

As usual, our mascot Scottish Blackface Ram, McVicar, joined us. He was feisty all weekend. He is now 6 years old and weighs about 280 pounds - mostly muscle. He is an active breeder and proud of it. On parade, I don't know whether I am leading him or he is leading me. The House of Douglas is clearly and uniquely recognized when McVicar is part of our clan activities; we draw crowds. McVicar seems especially pleased and poised when he is leading Clan Douglas on parade. He is always announced individually when Clan Douglas is introduced. Special thanks to Stuart Ballantyne, of Craigmalloch Farms, for giving us occasional custody of this handsome beast and the Lord of his Realm.

Joining us in the clan parades, we were honored this year by the Craigmalloch Farms border collies. Lucia and Stuart Ballantyne own, breed, and train their border collies. Lucy narrates their herding demonstrations throughout the weekend, while Stuart puts the dogs and sheep thru their paces. Lucia and Stuart Ballantyne are Clan Douglas members and frequently do demonstrations wearing their Douglas Tartans. Their pedigree dogs continue to win herding competitions. In fact, in April, Stuart is taking one of the dogs to Italy for competition.

Throughout the weekend, we renewed our bonds of friendship with our fellow members of Clan Douglas and with those in other clans we see regularly. We had some great conversations with a multitude of people seeking their roots. In some cases, we could help them. With many, we could only direct them to more appropriate sources.

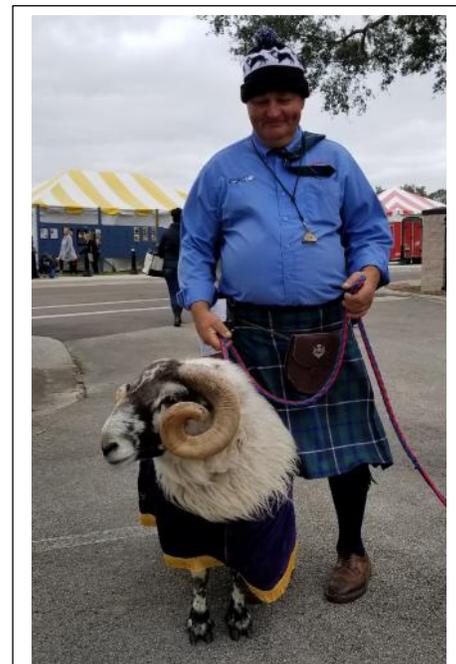
Several folks, who qualified, took member applications. We hope to see all of them as clan members at future games. And we hope to see all of our members at future Scottish events. The next one, at which we will have a clan tent, is the Northeast Florida Games, February 23, 2019. For all future games, check our clan website or www.asgf.com.

Yours Aye,

Marc Hitchins
CDSNA FL Regent



Rev. Ed Bartle, Brian and Kelly Douglas Warner, Judy & Ray Douglas, Dawn Douglas, Allison Morton Painter, John Douglas (kneeling), Jeff & Mona Sparks, Mark & Sally Hill, Marc Hitchins, and Randy Bartle, Patrick Acosta (kneeling)



Life Member Stuart Ballantyne of Craigmalloch Farms with McVicar



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

On Becoming the Town Crier for Franklin, Tennessee

Last year, Dr. John ‘Doc the Scot’ Mather, our Regent for Tennessee was elected to membership in the American Guild of Town Criers, affiliated with the Ancient and Honorable Guild of Town criers in the United Kingdom. He was issued with a Medallion which he wears whenever he is declaiming my “Oyez Oyez” (Hear Ye - Hear Ye) at events associated with the City of Franklin, Tennessee. He was sponsored by the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County TN which, in addition to its role in preserving all that is best of Franklin, organizes events in Downtown Franklin throughout the year. Of particular note is the “Dickens of a Christmas” held every year the first weekend in December, The Street Festival in the spring and other fun events with vendors, artists and musicians.

The town crier is indeed an ancient position, possibly dating back as far as the heralds in Greece, with ‘stentorian” (loud) voices attributed to the Greek warrior Stentor whose voice was as powerful as the voices of 50 men. Now, for the most part, the town crier is ceremonial, although still required by law and tradition in Great Britain for court and official announcements such as the birth of a member of the Royal Family. Town criers enjoy royal protection in the United Kingdom and hence the command “Don’t shoot the messenger”. In the past attacking a town crier was considered treasonous, as you were attacking the King’s word. In England’s early years, after the Normans invaded England, town criers were the most important and often the only way of spreading news throughout a township: an ‘historical newscaster’.

Throughout Europe town criers in the past declaimed the news as most people could not read newspapers or write. Proclamations, local bylaws, advance warning of market days, adverts were yelled out with an *Oyez Oyez*, usually men carrying a hand-bell to make a loud noise, but some use a gong or a drum to secure attention. The ‘Oyez.’ means ‘Hear Ye.’ and pay attention and comes from the Anglo-Norman word for “Listen”. In certain instances these announcements are recorded in books called a Proclamation Book.

Town Criers are often dressed in elaborate garb which dates from the 18th Century. There is no ‘uniform’ per se but you will usually find them in red and gold robes, black or white breeches, black or embellished boots or shoes and a tricorne hat. The tricorne hat has a feather or two which shows that the town crier is literate – can read and write – hence the expression having “a feather in his cap/hat”. John has two different coats and a vest adorned with patches that indicate his own affiliations including the Knights Templar. These intrigue children, who often want a picture taken with him, and he is able to describe what each patch means, including some related to his continued support of issues concerning veterans who have completed their military service and yet may need assistance with finding productive work and the signature medical problems upon discharge: Traumatic Head Injury and PTSD.



Robert Burns Supper January 26, 2019, Fresno CA.

L-R: Sharon Peterson Kissel, Vivian Peterson, Cora Peterson (seated), Mark Peterson, Robert Burns (portrait only), Robert Ashby, Michelle Ashby, Teresa Blaylock, and Joe Blaylock, all of Clan Douglas.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Duluth Scottish Heritage Association and The Kitchi Gammi Club's Robert Burns Night -- January 26, 2019

It could have been warmer inside, temperature wise, but the warmth of various toasts, the Haggis of course, the friendship present commemorating "Rabbi Burns", made things a lot warmer.

There was a Highland Dance Room where dancing was discussed in conjunction with June's International Dance Competition. The "meat and potatoes" room where the Haggis, mashed potatoes with gravy, rare roast beef, and cocky leeky soup were served.

The Whisky tasting room where 12 different Scotches were presented. I had not tasted Talisker Storm before, so I sampled it. A strong smoky, but pleasant taste. Some of the others I had tasted or owned.

Clan Douglas sponsored the Hartley Room as before. North Coast Salmon. ... but, Alas, Alack! ...there was not enough salmon. Two pallets were filled--three would have been better. We ran out with people clamoring for more. Crackers on a side plate. We displayed flags, maps of castles and Scotland, and a tartan book. This year, I displayed my small pipes as well. Jody use to ride horses to school, bareback. Pam Longville owns a ranch. She has many horses. So they got into a lengthy discussion about riding, horses, training. Pam does Barrell Racing in Rodeos.

This year's Burns night gathered the most number of admirers ever; over 165 Scots and Scots "Wannabes." The celebration begins on the main floor with a social hour mixer. A piper pipes the Burns admirers up to the second floor where the various "food rooms are", and into the Great Hall. In the Great Hall the welcomes are given, toasts to the President, the Queen, Robert Burns, the Address to the Haggis. Jock and Kerry Welsh gave the Gaelic Toast, Jock in Gaelic. There was musical entertainment which included Ashton, Sweet Ashton, and My love is a Red, Red Rose.

And last held was Highland Dancing, and Country Dancing, preceded by the DSHA Pipes and Drums, in the Main Floor's West Dining Room. (Actually, the last event was held in the Basement Bar when the "evening was over" for all who wanted to attend.)

Submitted by,
John M. Glendenning, Jr.
Minnesota (North) Regent



Jock and Kerry Welsh gave the Gaelic Toast



Shawn Marchinek named CDSNA Co-Regent for Washington

My name is Shawn Marchinek and I proudly have maternal Douglass ancestry. Family lore indicates we may be descended from the Douglas of Mains branch of the Clan. I am a 5th generation WA state resident, and I inherited a life-long love of Scottish history and heritage from my grandmother. I am excited to share that with others as they explore their heritage with the Clan Douglas Society of North America. I recently retired from 25 years of service in the U.S. Coast Guard and settled on Bainbridge Island, WA with my wife and two children (two others have already left the nest!) and work for the WA State Ferries. I am excited to be a Regent for the state of Washington and look forward to meeting and greeting old and new members of CDSNA. Forward!



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

Douglas dinner & drams – February 1



L-R: Tea and Joe Blaylock, Linda and Paul Blauser, Mark and Cora Peterson

Recently, six Clan Douglas members got together for a great dinner, and great time in Elk Grove (near Sacramento), California. Paul and Linda Blauser invited Mark and Cora Peterson, and Joe and Tea Blaylock to their house for a corned beef and cabbage dinner extraordinaire, one of Linda’s specialties. Paul got some of his guests’ attention, as well, with his collection of hard to find single-malt whiskies, most of which are unavailable in the U.S. market. He has them shipped directly from Scotland.

After a couple samples of Paul’s wares, the entourage sat down for the scrumptious dinner and great conversation among friends. Everyone was stuffed after extra servings and dessert, so with a couple more samples of Paul’s wares in hand everyone was treated to a few tunes Paul played on one of his beautiful guitars; Paul plays in a local band!

Not wanting to hurt Paul’s feelings (all of the guests being very polite, you know) everyone submitted to another wee dram of fine whisky, and after a really great night of fine food, fun and entertainment parted way, hoping to make this kind of event a more regular happening!



The Queen Mary Scots Festival & International Highland Games Long Beach, California – February 16-17



I received a call from Tim Tyler asking me if I would host the 2019 Queen Mary games this year because he was otherwise engaged. I gladly accepted. I wasn't able to pick up any of his Clan Douglas items so I made do with a couple of my Clan Douglas shirts, my personal Scottish books, swords, and shields.

Saturday the torrential rains we have been having held off for the day. I quickly set up and proceeded to greet the other clans. I especially enjoyed practicing my limited Scottish Gaelic with Roger Matheson from Clan Matheson and James Logan from Clan Logan. As you know, the Logan's were with Sir James at the battle of Teba. We had good traffic at our table, but sadly I didn't have a

sign in sheet. The ship was in a bit of disarray from a water leak problem, but was mostly cleaned up for the festival. Sunday brought a bit of rain and made some people scramble a bit but, since Scottish people are not made of sugar, none were the worse for wear.

I enjoyed being the temporary Regent and look forward to my permanent role and more games.

Yours aye
Alex Kirkland
Southern California Regent



PS... Alex has been appointed as the new CDSNA Regent for CA (South).



NEWS FROM ALL OVER

2019 CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE-APR-JUL

-----APRIL-----

SOUTH CAROLINA

APRIL 4-7

Contact Regent for confirmation

Tartan Days South, Columbia, SC

CALIFORNIA (North)

APRIL 6-7

Mark & Cora Peterson

Kern County Scottish Games, Bakersfield, CA

LOUISIANA

APRIL 6

No Regent Available – Scheduling Conflict

Louisiana Tartan Festival, Minden, LA

FLORIDA

APRIL 6

Contact Regent Marc Hitchins for more information

Dunedin Highland Games & Festival, Dunedin, FL

OREGON

APRIL 6

Carol Morton-Bianchini

All Clan National Tartan Day Celebration, Portland, OR

TEXAS

APRIL 6-7

Regent Unconfirmed

San Antonio Scottish Highland Games, Helotes, TX

HAWAII

APRIL 6-7

James Putnam

Hawaiian Scottish Festival, Honolulu, HI

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 12-13

Regent/Co-Regent Wanted

Tartan Day NC, Raleigh, NC

NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 12-14

Samuel Machado

Loch Norman Highland Games, Huntersville, NC

-----APRIL-----

ARKANSAS

APRIL 12-14

Diana Stell

Arkansas Scottish Festival, Batesville, AR

COLORADO

APRIL 13-14

Chuck Mirabile

Colorado Tartan Day, Longmont, CO

NEVADA

APRIL 13-14

No Regent Available

Las Vegas Celtic & Highland Games, Las Vegas, NV

FLORIDA

APRIL 13-14

Marc Hitchins

Ormond Beach Celtic Festival, Ormond Beach, FL

KANSAS

APRIL 13-14

Harold Edington

Great Plains Renaissance Festival, Wichita, KS

OKLAHOMA

APRIL 26-28

Jody Blaylock

Iron Thistle Scottish Festival, Yukon, OK

MARYLAND

APRIL 27

James Agnew

Southern Maryland Celtic Festival, St. Leonard, MD

CALIFORNIA (North)

APRIL 27-28

Bob & Dee Douglas

Woodland Celtic Games & Festival, Woodland, CA

OREGON (South)

APRIL 27-28

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Elk Mountain Highland Games & May Day Festival, Rogue

River, OR

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

2019 CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE-APR-JUL

-----MAY-----

OREGON

TBD

Carol Morton-Bianchini

Clan Donald "All Clans Spring Ceilidh", Portland OR

-- Contact Regent Carol for details

GEORGIA

MAY 4

Randy Bartle

Savannah Scottish Games, Savannah, GA

NEW MEXICO

MAY 4-5

Eric Vigil

Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival, Bernalillo, NM

TEXAS

MAY 10-12

Matthew Douglas

Texas Scottish Festival & Highland Games, Decatur, TX

NORTH CAROLINA

MAY TBA

Jeffrey Dickey

Bethabara Highland Games, Winston-Salem, NC

MARYLAND

MAY 18

James Agnew

Fair Hill Scottish Games, Elkton, MD

NEVADA

MAY 18

Richard & Holly Bromley

Reno Celtic Celebration

ILLINOIS

MAY 18

Harold Edington

Springfield Area Highland Games, Chatham, IL

NEW YORK

MAY 18

Daneen Muehlbauer

Finger Lakes Celtic Festival, Farmington, NY

-----MAY-----

TENNESSEE

MAY 18-19

No Regent Available

Smokey Mountain Highland Games, Maryville, TN

OREGON (North)

MAY 25

Carol Morton-Bianchini

Eugene Scottish Festival, Eugene, OR

SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 25

Doug Isbecque

Gallabrac/Furman U Highland Games, Greenville, SC

MICHIGAN

MAY 25-26

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Alma Highland Festival, Alma, MI

CALIFORNIA (South)

May 25-26

Alex Kirkland

Orange County Scottish Fest, Costa Mesa, CA

The CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE

can be viewed on the clan website:

<http://clandouglassociety.org/news/2017/1/22/cdsna-sponsored-events.html>

CDSNA REGENTS are asked to review the webpage and send any corrections or additions to **Dabh Ghlase** Editor Harold Edington

Members are welcome to email or text the Editor with news about any US or Canadian festivals not reported here.

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

2019 CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE-APR-JUL

-----JUNE-----

KENTUCKY

May 31-JUNE 2

Elizabeth Martin

Glasgow Highland Games, Glasgow, KY

WISCONSIN

JUNE 2

Lori Garbett

Milwaukee Highland Games, Milwaukee, WI

WASHINGTON

JUNE 2

Contact Regent for more information

Bellingham Highland Games, Ferndale, WA

MISSOURI

Kansas City Scottish Highland Games, Riverside, MO

CANCELLED FOR 2019

RHODE ISLAND

JUNE 8

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Rhode Island Scottish Highland Festival, Richmond, RI

WYOMING

JUNE 8-9

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Cheyenne Celtic Festival, Cheyenne, WY

OREGON

JUNE 8

Carol Morton-Bianchini

McMinnville Scottish Festival, McMinnville, OR

GEORGIA

JUNE 8-9

No Regent Available

Blairsville Highland Games, Blairsville, GA

NORTH CAROLINA

JUNE 13-16

Regent Unconfirmed

Taste of Scotland Festival, Franklin, NC

-----JUNE-----

ILLINOIS

JUNE 14-15

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Illinois St. Andrew Society Highland Games, Itasca, IL

WASHINGTON

JUNE 15

Contact Regent for more information

Prosser Highland Games, Prosser, WA

MARYLAND

JUNE 15

James Agnew

Mid-Maryland Celtic Festival, Mt. Airy, MD

OHIO

JUNE 22

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Ohio Scottish Games, Wellington, OH

MINNESOTA

JUNE TBA

Jock Glendenning

Intr'n'l Highland Dance Competition, Duluth, MN (Contact

Regent for time/place info)

WASHINGTON

JUNE 22

Contact Regent for more information

Tacoma Highland Games, Graham, WA

CALIFORNIA (South)

JUNE 22-23

Alex Kirkland – contact Regent to verify

San Diego Highland Games, Vista, CA

PENNSYLVANNIA

JUNE 22-23

Donald Dickey

Celtic Fling & Highland Games, Mannheim, PA

ALASKA

JUNE 29

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted

Alaska Scottish Highland Games, Palmer, AK

NEWS FROM ALL OVER

2019 CDSNA FESTIVAL EVENT SCHEDULE-APR-JUL

-----JULY-----

UTAH

JULY 7-9

No Regent Available -- Regent Wanted
Utah Scottish Festival, Salt Lake City, UT

NORTH CAROLINA

JULY 11-14

Sam Machado
Grandfather Mountain Games, Linville, NC

OREGON (North)

JULY 12-14

No Regent Available
Athena Caledonia Games, Athena, OR

WASHINGTON

JULY 13-14

Contact Regent for more information
Skagit Valley Highland Games, Mt. Vernon, WA

OREGON (North)

JULY 19-20

Carol Morton-Bianchini
Portland Highland Games, Gresham, OR

MONTANA

JULY 19-21

Annie Haines
Kootenai Highland Gathering, Libby, MT

MINNESOTA

JULY 19-20

No Regent Available -- Regent or Co-Regent Wanted
Minnesota Scottish Fair & Highland Games, Eagan, MN

MASSACHUSETTS

JULY 20

No Regent Available - Regent Vacancy
Glasgow Lands Scottish Festival, Florence, MA

ARIZONA

JULY 20-21

Barbara Wise
Arizona Highland Celtic Festival, Flagstaff, AZ

-----JULY-----

COLORADO

JULY 20-21

Chuck Mirabile
Elizabeth Celtic Festival, Elizabeth, CO

WASHINGTON

JULY 26-28

Contact Regent for more information
Pacific NW Highland Games, Enumclaw, WA

Want more DOUGLAS history?



Visit

The Douglas Archives

A collection of historical and genealogical records

<http://www.douglashistory.co.uk/>

Annual Clan Douglas Service Awards...

Do you have someone in mind?



Every year Clan Douglas recognizes up to three members for their praiseworthy service to our extended Society family. We have many volunteers who spend numerous hours representing our organization at games, Scottish events, and organizational tasks. Each nomination must be accompanied by a written recommendation of 1 to 2 paragraphs describing the meritorious service of the nominee.

The individuals selected will be awarded a plaque and recognized at a Scottish festival of their choice local to them.

Active Member Meritorious Service Award

Active Member Meritorious Service Award nominations are solicited annually from the general membership, Regents and Board of Directors via email and articles in the newsletter. Nominees must be an active (dues current) member of CDSNA; any active member is eligible.

Dr. Gilbert Douglas, Jr. Award

The **Dr. Gilbert Douglas, Jr. Award** is intended to be offered on an occasional basis to individuals who have served Clan Douglas for many years in an exemplary manner. The Board of Directors nominates and approves recipients of this award. Nominees must have served 10 or more years in either an elected or appointed position with Clan Douglas.

Robert W. Groves, Jr. Award

The **Robert W. Groves, Jr. Award** is intended to be offered on an occasional basis to individuals who have served Clan Douglas for many years in an exemplary manner. The Board of Directors nominates and approves recipients of this award. Nominees must have served 15 or more years in either an elected or appointed position with Clan Douglas.

**Awards Nominations should be sent to
CDSNA President, Chuck Mirabile,
ON or BEFORE MAY 1, 2019.**

by mail: Chuck Mirabile
7403 S. Parfet Ct.
Littleton, CO 80127-6109

by email: loudbeak@yahoo.com

**CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF
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Visit our Website: <http://www.clandougllassociety.org>

**National Office – CDSNA
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Dabh Ghlase Newsletter

Is published four times annually:

**March, June,
September, & December**

Submission Dates

Newsletter submissions are accepted until
the 15th day of the month preceding
the publication month.

[Example: June 2019 submissions
must be received by May 15, 2019]

Items received after the Submission Date
may be saved for the next newsletter.

Please send your articles for submission to

clan.douglas@yahoo.com

or contact your Regional Asst VP
or the CDSNA Vice President.

Anyone is welcome to submit articles, games reports, and
general information.

**We do request that any article submitted be related to
CDSNA or of general Celtic interest.**

Newsletter Editor will make all final decisions as to the content
of the Newsletter.



**CLAN DOUGLAS SOCIETY OF NORTH
AMERICA**

Founded 1975



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