



The **Spur** and **Phoenix**

Spring 2007



Chief: The Right Honourable Earl of Annandale and Hartfell

Traveling the Ancestral Trail

by

Florence Johnston Jester, Sharon Johnston Maasch, George Edward Johnston, Sharilyn Johnson

We thought the readers of the Spur and Phoenix might be interested in a tour that we, as a group of related Johnston's, took this summer in Scotland. We were more than pleased with this service and the wonderful hospitality of the Scots people that we met. The tour group is called "Scottish Ancestral Trail" and is tailored to your surname and the places where that name originated. Our Johnston family are also participants in the FamilyTreeDNA surname project and through that testing we are able to pinpoint quite accurately where our particular Johnston/e clan originated. We furnished Lesley and Peter Gray, the owners of "Scottish Ancestral Trails" some of this DNA derived information and they based our tour on those premises. See more about them at www.scottish-ancestral-trail.co.uk. They are a class act from beginning to end!

Armed with maps, copies of "The Steel Bonnets" and "The Gentle Johnston's", we arrived in Edinburgh on August first and were met at the airport by Lesley Gray and David Falconer, our guide and driver for the entire tour.



Florence Johnston Jester, Sharon Johnston Maasch, driver David Falconer, Sharilyn Johnson, George Edward Johnston

Continued on page 14 & 15

Clan Johnston/e in America

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Important Notice From the Editor

** Please read the newly adopted newsletter policies in the winter 2006 issue for information on submitting articles.*

** When sending photos with an article, please send them as attachments, in the body of an email or by mail. Photos from Word documents do not reproduce well.*

Next Newsletter Deadline

May 5, 2007

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Please contact CJA if you have a change of address. For each incorrect address, the Postal Service charges 70 cents to give us the correct address.

Visit us at

www.clanjohnston.org

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Clan Johnston/e in America produces the *Spur & Phoenix* on a non-profit basis for the information of its member. The Newsletter Editor has compiled the contents with due care and in good faith from sources that are believed to be genuine and accurate. The views expressed by any of the authors of articles are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Editor, the Council or the members of Clan Johnston/e in America.

Clan badge designs, copyright Romilly Squire & Gaelic Themes

President's Letter

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season, and an opportunity to share it with family and friends. During this period, Clan Johnston/e in America (CJA) continued to gain new members, and we hope to gain more during the upcoming busy season for Scottish games. Please reach out to your kinfolk and other Johnston/es and invite them to join CJA, and help us show our Johnston/e colors at Scottish games in your area. CJA provides a lot of member services – this newsletter, a genealogy database of CJA members, access to CJA archives, Johnston/e merchandise – but perhaps the most valuable of all is the feeling of belonging and pride in an extended family that is rooted in its Scottish heritage.

Unfortunately, we lost one of our champions recently too. The Honorable Russ Honey, a former Judge in Ontario, CJA Council member, and Canadian Commissioner to Lord Annandale has passed away. Many of you have purchased his authoritative and very readable book, *The Gentle Johnstons*, which is available from our Merchandise Manager. We will miss Judge Honey greatly, and our thanks go out to his wife Marrie and his niece Shari Pearce for sharing him with us. More on Judge Honey's exemplary life and service is presented elsewhere in this issue.

I'd like to challenge each and every one of you to become more active in CJA. It would be a great show of respect for our heritage, and for our parents and family members. We are currently planning for our Annual General Meetings (AGMs) in Enumclaw, Washington in 2007 and Fergus, Ontario in 2008, as well as planning locations for our other AGMs out to 2011 (our 35th Anniversary). We are considering relocating our CJA archives from their current home at the Ellen Payne Odom Genealogical Library in Moultrie, GA. We are also recruiting State and Provincial Commissioners for areas that don't one currently, and recruiting volunteers for committees as I've mentioned in previous issues of the *Spur and Phoenix*. Please volunteer or contribute ideas to this process, or simply ask questions, by e-mailing me at sajscot@aol.com or calling me at (919) 614-2966. I look forward to hearing from you! Remember – any organization like ours is only as strong as its members are involved.

Also, please continue to support the work of the Scottish Diaspora in your area, by participating in their functions and volunteering for leadership positions if you are so inclined. It is quite rewarding and helps to advance the awareness of Johnston/es in things Scottish.

As far as our brethren in Scotland are concerned, the elections for the Scottish Parliament will take place before you receive our next issue. These are commonly called the Holyrood elections, and will occur in May. There is a possibility they could result in a majority for the Scottish National Party (SNP), which could lead to a subsequent referendum on Scottish independence. You definitely want to keep up with these developments!

Yours Aye,
Stephen Johnston



Photo by
Diane Coblentz
Stone Mountain
Games 2006



Cead Mile Falte

A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members.

Krista & Yacine Bennani – Riverview, FL
Keith F. Johnston – Stoney Creek, ONT Canada
Edwin R. Johnston – Gloucester, ONT Canada
Deborah K. Johnston – Stockton, CA
Kenneth Leslie Johnston - Sault Ste. Marie -
ONT - Canada

Annual General Meeting: July 27, 2007
Renton, Washington

The Clan Johnston/e in America (CJA) Council has selected the **Seattle Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering** to be host site for the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM) this coming summer. These games are held at the King County Fairgrounds, Enumclaw, Washington, July 28th & 29th, 2007. For more information about the Seattle Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering, see their website at www.sshga.org

The CJA AGM and Banquet will be held at the Renton Holiday Inn Select Spruce Room. Please complete the registration form at the bottom of this page and mail it along with your check to the CJA AGM 2007 Committee by June 1, 2007. Our banquet this year will feature a selection of foods from the renowned buffet tables of the Renton Holiday Inn Select.

Hotel Accommodations and Car Rentals: A number of double rooms are available for July 27 - 29 at a special group rate of \$99.00 (plus tax) at the Renton Holiday Inn Select. The hotel has free shuttles to and from Sea-Tac Airport. Call Theresa Berry at her direct line of 425-254-7225 or email her at tberry@hirenton.com. When you call or email, let the hotel know you are with **Clan Johnston/e in America** to receive these special rates. The group rates are available until July 13th.

There are special **car rental** rates available through the hotel. Additionally, the hotel rates are good for three days before and three days after our event.

Renton Holiday Inn Select; One South Grady Way Renton, WA 98055 www.hirenton.com

For an information packet of interesting things to do in and around Seattle while you visit, please call Theresa Berry at her direct line of 425-254-7225 or email her at tberry@hirenton.com.

CJA AGM & Banquet 2007

Friday, July 27th, 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

COST PER PERSON: \$50.00 (Includes AGM Banquet & Administrative Costs)

No Host bar Available

Please register by July 1, 2007.

Makes checks payable to *Clan Johnston/e in America* and mail it along with this form to:

CJA AGM Committee 2007, 2119 Aberdeen Avenue NE, Renton, Washington 98056

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please let us know if you have special dietary needs.

Total Enclosed: \$ **(\$50.00 X number of guests attending)**

Please indicate the names of the people attending:

Join us in Renton, Washington on July 27th for the next AGM!

If you missed the 2006 AGM at Stone Mountain, here are some photos sent in by Diane Coblentz.



Danny Johnston and Pat Johnston



Brian Watts with his sister Emily and her husband.



J.J. and Beverly Johnston of Colorado and J.J.'s mother.



Pat & Steve Johnston



*30th Anniversary AGM in Atlanta, Georgia.
CJA Council members; Arthur & Margot
Johnston, Bart Johnston, Dennis Watts, Billye
Telling and Barbara Hockman.*



*CJA members visiting with each other
at the Stone Mountain Games.*

Don't miss the fun! Please note that the AGM is in the summer this time so make your reservations early.



Famous Johnstons



by Bart Johnston

John Johnston of Craige and Michigan

On the banks of the river in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan sits one of the oldest homes in the state. Once the center of commerce, international diplomacy and Indian affairs, it was built by the most important man of the Upper Great Lakes during the early 1800s, John Johnston of Craighallynoe. It now stands as a museum to pioneer life, the frontier fur trade and the amalgamation of Scots-Irish, Indian and French cultures.

John was born in Ireland to an influential Scots-Irish family of Co. Antrim in 1762 and inherited the estate. He never said what happened but left Ireland in 1791 due to what was described as a “great disappointment.” He was armed with a letter of introduction to Lord Dorchester, Gov. Gen. of British North America. In Montreal, Dorchester introduced Johnston to the partners of the Hudson Bay Co. and he was intrigued with their work ethic, business sense and entrepreneurial zeal. They were the ones that sparked his desire to enter the fur trade but he chose to go alone in the wilderness, where he would answer only to himself and not to powerful Scots in Montreal. Later, these partners would consider Johnston, of all the independent fur traders, the greatest threat to their empire. They would eventually pay Indians to attack his trading posts in Northern Minnesota and Canada.

In 1791 he ventured into the Lake Superior region and was abandoned by his men as winter approached. While trying to survive, the tenderfoot was discovered by the powerful War Chief of the Ojibway, White Feather, and rescued. With a gift for language, Johnston soon learned the native tongue and fell in love with the chief's daughter, Green Glade Woman. He asked for her hand and White Feather told him to wait one year; if he still wanted to marry, the chief would bless the union. In 1792 he went to Montreal on business and returned that year to marry his beloved, who became known as Susan in the white community. They would remain married until his death and together raised eight children.

They moved to the Sault in 1793 and established their trading post that became the clearinghouse for Indians, army officers, explorers, prospectors, adventurers and government officials of the U.S. and Canada.

Although the post was on the U.S. side of the river, Johnston kept his British citizenship. When the War of 1812 broke out, the British quickly took the fort on Mackinaw Island from an American garrison that had not been advised that war had begun. In 1815 the British commander on Mackinaw asked for reinforcements to withstand an American attack and Johnston equipped, with his own resources, 100 voyageurs and Canadians and led them to the fort. While he was gone, the Americans fired his home, thinking it was the Hudson Bay outpost. After the war he returned to his home and rebuilt it. In 1820, Susan Johnston avoided a bloody war between the pro-British Ojibway and the American army when she single-handedly negotiated the sale of land to Gov. Lewis Cass for a fort on the river at the Sault.

The next year, John and Susan were married in a Christian ceremony to formalize their Indian marriage of 29 years earlier. In 1832 Susan built a small Presbyterian Church to honor her husband who had died four years previously.

John and Susan had eight children and the father insisted on academic excellence. All were fluent in French, English and Ojibway. They attended school and also were tutored at home. Jane is the best known as a poet and collector of Indian lore which her husband, Henry Schoolcraft, put into book form and was the inspiration for Longfellow's *Hiawatha*. Sons George and John worked in the fur trade and were Schoolcraft's interpreters when he was the first Indian Agent for the Michigan Territory. Every treaty signed in the Upper Great Lakes and northern plains in the mid 1800's credits them.

John was an excellent writer himself and wrote *An Account of Lake Superior 1792-1807*, which is still a valuable source of geography. When he died in 1828, Susan had her silver spoons hammered into an engraved plaque for his casket. She lived on supporting herself by making maple sugar on her Sugar Island and acting as first lady to the mixed community. She died in 1843 and was buried next to her husband in the cemetery in Sault Ste. Marie. Many of John and Susan's descendants still reside in the Upper Great Lakes.

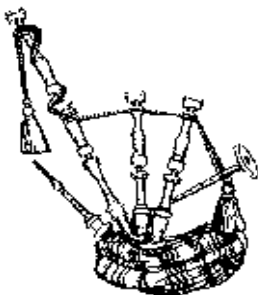
Much of John's success was in no small part due to his independent nature, love of the wilderness, and affection for those tribal people who inhabited it. His understanding of Indian culture and his readiness to accept it through his marriage no doubt greatly enhanced his standing with the native tribes. His loyalty to the Crown in 1815 was recognized years after, when the British finally reimbursed him for the loss of his house to the Americans.

2007 Events

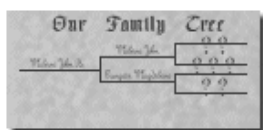
Please send event information to info@clanjohnston.org for future events.

For more information on locations, clan hosts and contact information, visit our website at www.clanjohnston.org

- 4/10-11/2007 Highland Games**, Panama City, FL. (Grace Presbyterian Church, Airport & Lensby Ave.)
sallyepler@aol.com
- 4/28/2007 27th Annual Southern Maryland Celtic Festival**, Jefferson Patterson Park, St. Leonards, MD
- 5/12/2007 The Frederick Celtic Festival**, Urbana Fire Hall Fairgrounds, Fredrick, MD
- 5/19/2007 Minnesota Scottish Fair & Highland Games**, (Note new date.), Dakota County Fairgrounds, Farmington, MN Website at www.mnscottishfair.org
- 6/2/2007 9th Annual Southern New Hampshire Scottish Games and Festival**, Silver Ranch, Route 124, Jaffrey, NH Website at www.snhscotcelt.org
- 6/8-10/2007 Annual Blairsville Scottish Festival & Highland Games**, Meeks Park, Blairsville, GA
Website at www.blairsvillescottishfestival.org
- 6/9/2007 Potomac Celtic Festival**, U.S. 15 just a few miles north of Leesburg, VA
Website at www.pcfest.org
- 7/12-15/2007 52nd Grandfather Mountain Highland Games and Gathering O' Scottish Clans**, MacRae Meadows, Grandfather Mountain near Linville, NC, Website at www.gmhg.org
- 7/14-15/2007 13th Annual Skagit Valley Highland Games & Celtic Festival**, Edgewater Park, Mount Vernon, WA www.celticarts.org
- 7/20-22/2007 Antigonish Highland Games**, Website at www.antigonishhighlandgames.com
- 7/21-22/2007 Highlands of Durham Games**, Hosted by CJA, Uzbridge, Ontario, Canada,
Website at <http://highlandsofdurhamgames.com>, Contact: 1-888-253-5552,
- 7/27/2007 Clan Johnston/e in America (CJA) 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM)** (See page 4)
- 7/28-29/2007 Seattle Scottish Highland Games and Clan Gathering**, King County Fairgrounds, Enumclaw, Washington Website at www.sshga.org
- 8/3-4/2007 Glengarry Highland Games**, Kenyon Agricultural Grounds, Maxville, Ontario, Canada
Website at www.glengarryhighlandgames.com
- 8/11-12/2007 Colorado Scottish Festival and Rocky Mountain Highland Games**, Highland Heritage Park, Highlands Ranch, Colorado
- 8/11/2007 Whidbey Island Games**, The Greenbank Farm, Greenbank, WA, Website at: www.wihg.org
- 9/6-9/2007 Estes Park Long's Peak Scottish Irish Festival**, Recreation Fields, Estes Park, Colorado
Website at www.scotfest.com
- 9/15/2007 Virginia Scottish Games & Gathering of Clans**, Skye Meadows State Park, Delaplane, VA
www.vascottishgames.org
- 9/21-23/2007 New Hampshire Highland Games**, Loon Mt. Recreation Area, Lincoln, NH
Website at: www.nhscot.org
- 10/8/2007 Alexandria Scottish Heritage Festival**, Fort Ward Park, Alexandria, Virginia
- 10/13/2007 16th Annual Anne Arundel Scottish Highland Games**, Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, Route 178, near Crownsville, Maryland, Website at www.annearun.com/aasfi
- 10/19-21/07 35th Stone Mountain Highland Games**, Stone Mountain, GA Website at: www.smhg.org
- 10/27-28/07 Richmond Highland Games and Celtic Festival**, Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, VA
Website at www.richmondceltic.com/site.asp
- 12/1/2007 Alexandria Christmas Walk**, Alexandria, VA ,Contact: (703) 841-9190 Katherine Bailey-Mathae



Visit the games and festivals nearest you and bring the whole family for a good time exploring your Scottish and Scots-Irish heritage!



Queries



Genealogy Corner

Barbara Hockman, Genealogist

Carl Johnston would like to correspond with anyone who might help him with his ancestors. If you have any information on the family listed below, you can contact him at cjohnston06@yahoo.com.

James Johnston (my great-grandfather), born 1851 in St. Mary's, Ontario, Scots-Irish ancestry; married Myna Knight of Balleybruny Ireland (date unknown), four children, James, Granville Clint, Ray Uriah and Ethel born from 1878 to 1890, homesteaded in South Dakota in 1880's; divorced his wife and moved to North Carolina in about 1904 to help run mission schools that were established in part by his nephews Marshall and J.O.

Have you wanted to create a family website? You can do a basic one for free at a new website www.myheritage.com. A simple registration at the site will also give you access to a mega research function. One query searches over 400 genealogy databases.

WWW.vitalrec.com is a website providing information on how to obtain vital records from each state, territory and county of the United States. See the guidelines for information on how to order birth certificates, death records, marriage licenses, and divorce decrees.

Check your local library to see if they offer access to Proquest Historical Newspapers. This database accesses nine major papers including *The New York Times* from 1851, the *Chicago Tribune* from 1849 and the *Los Angeles Times* from 1881.

An interesting site to check out while it is still free is www.rootstelevision.com. This is TV you watch on the web. Their introduction reads: "Roots Television is by and for avid genealogists and family history lovers of all stripes....." It has great how-to programs, history lessons, and "programs" relating to all aspects of genealogy. Playing time of each program is generally 15 minutes or less.

WWW.freeancestry.com takes you to all the databases that can be searched for free at ancestry.com. Ancestry.com is another website that many libraries carry for their patrons. Be sure to check with your local library before going to the expense of purchasing a subscription that you would use infrequently.

Happy hunting!

Flowers of the Forest

Russell Honey (See articles)

Charles Wilson Johnston IV of Chapel Hill, NC

James E. Johnston of Port Orange, FL.

This lament was sent in by Pauline Johnston and was written by her daughter Cindy Johnston Hunt for her late father, James E. Johnston.



*Out of the misty haze, a-top the
craggy hills of the Highlands, trudges
the Scotsman, of the Clan Johnston.*

*Once the gentle giant who harbored
his family in safety and protected the
borders: whose laughter spilled
across the glen, is now but a mere
shadow of the man he once was.*

*His body lumbers: his shoulders
slump with the weariness of the bur-
dens that have ravaged his body. His
tartan is haggard; his boots bare to
the sole; no arrows left to penetrate
the enemy. His eyes speak of the mel-
ancholy of a life unfinished; of the
destinies of this generation and next
that will unfold without his guidance.*

*Alas, his spirit yearns to be relin-
quished from the bonds that hold him
captive. The mystical lure of the celtic
pipes are calling him home—home to
a haven free from pain and sadness.
As the dense fog surrounds him, he
closes his eyes and fills his lungs with
his last earthly breath. Mar Sin Leibh
(good bye).*

by Cindy Johnston Hunt

Russell C. Honey, 1921 - 2007

With the passing of Russell C. (Russ) Honey, my uncle, our family has lost its patriarch. This position in the family gave him more pleasure than all the other lofty positions he held during his lifetime. In his years of health and humor he was wont to remind any of us who behaved contrary to his expectations or desires that he was “disappointed” and expected more. Equally, he praised us and laughed with us. He knew he had our ear.

Saskatchewan shaped him, and he was always a Saskatchewan boy at heart. He was born there in August of 1921. The value of family as he saw it was molded by life in Saskatchewan, and his favorite evenings, for as long as I can remember, were spent recounting the homely tales of life with his parents, five siblings and his extended family of Johnston's. His character was forever set in the golden days spent in the company of his mentor, his beloved grandfather Hall Johnston. In fact, in his final days when Alzheimer's had robbed him of most other memory, many of these stories could still be coaxed out of him. His longing for Saskatchewan was intense; he made his last visit there in the year before he died, with his wife Marrie, escorted by a nephew who knew how important it was for him to return home one last time.

As a member of Clan Johnston/e in America, his love of Johnston/e history and his responsibilities as the Canadian contact for Clan Johnston/e were a source of great happiness and accomplishment for him. Likewise, as author of many enthusiastically compiled reports for the *Spur and Phoenix*, he whiled away many a happy hour. He published his book *The “Gentle” Johnston/es* in 1996, and was able to oversee it until his illness took him over in 2003.

Russ spent only three weeks in a nursing home and three weeks in hospital before succumbing to complications of Alzheimer's on January 7, 2007. We are proud of his life and his accomplishments, and feel privileged by all the quality time he spent with us.

Original version submitted by Shari Pearce

The Honourable Mr.
Justice Russell C. Honey,
Q.C.,LL.B



If you have not read Russell Honey's book, *The Gentle Johnston's*, you can order it from CJA. See the merchandise pages . This is a must read book for any Johnston/es.



Russell Honey in 2000 at the Longs Peak Festival in Estes Park, Colorado where he was the special guest for CJA's AGM.
Photo by Jackie Johnston

Our condolences to Russ's family and friends.



CANADA REPORTS

Best wishes to everyone for a blessed and healthy n2007. This new year was ushered in with traditional Hogmanay celebrations with pipers and dancers entertaining after the First footer had entered Peterborough's Scottish heritage museum, Hutchison House. This museum was built in 1836 for a well respected Scottish doctor, John Hutchison and his family to keep them from moving to much larger York. John had graduated from Glasgow University and Edinburgh, emigrated to Canada and after marrying, settled in Peterborough. During John's time in town his cousin, Sandford Fleming from Kirkcaldy Scotland, arrived and stayed with him until able to get work as a map maker/surveyor. With this auspicious Scottish background when Hutchison House became a living history museum in 1978 all things Scottish are celebrated — typical Scottish fare of Black Bun, Clootie pie, Scotch eggs, Oatcakes, Athol Brose and Haggis are all part of Hogmanay celebrations. Oh yes, Sandford Fleming became famous as the chief engineer for the CPR, the designer of the first Canadian postage stamp, establishing Standard time across the country, working with other countries to establish Greenwich Mean Time and the world's time zones and among many other things with making the first roller blade skates in 1845 before he left Scotland as a 19 year old and being knighted !

SAD DAYS FOR CJA

On January 7, 2007 the Honourable Mr Justice Russell C.Honey, QC,LLB, died in Picton Ontario. Russell had a long and notable life in Canadian politics being elected in 1962 to the House of Commons and ending when he retired as Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons in 1972. At that time he was appointed judge for the County of Hastings, then served in Ontario hHigh Courts until his retirement in 1991 from the Ontario Court of Justice.

It was as a proud and involved member of Clan Johnston/e in America, however, that so many thousands of people knew him. Through his mother's Johnston family he became interested in Johnston heritage and subsequently wrote the wonderful book 'The

"Gentle" Johnston/es that so many have read and use as a solid resource. Russell and his wonderful wife Marrie, loved participating in all things Johnston. They both wore their Scottish kilts with pride and style attending Highland festivities throughout Ontario as strong CJA representatives. For many years Russell served as East Canada Commissioner for CJA and as such was part of the Council. He was Vice-President East for many years. One of his proudest moments was when the Right Honourable Earl of Annandale and Hartfell named him as an Honourary Commissioner for Clan Johnston in Canada .

Many Canadian members will remember the lovely personal newsletters Russ sent to them, full of news about other Canadian members as well as CJA events, this letter in addition to the Spur and the Phoenix . He always had time to listen and learn and encouraged people to connect with their heritage and pass that information on to others. Russell was the first person I contacted about CJA and he was so encouraging and supportive of my efforts especially when we were establishing a presence at Highland Games. He asked me to assist Dennis Wyatt with the CJA tent for the second year at the Fergus Games. The third year instead of having a CJA tent at the Games Russ, Marrie, Peter and I attended Dennis' funeral in Kirkland Lake after Dennis died en route to the Games. We four as well as Dennis' family wore the Johnston tartan with pride. Russ was so supportive of CJA having a presence at any Games and I would report to him faithfully what had happened etc as over the years we held the Johnston banner high.

I'm sure when many CJA members read this there will be a time of sadness at the passing of a true loyal and proud clan member, but even more so will his wonderful life be an inspiration to many in Canada .

Russell Honey in 2000 at Estes Park, Co.



Photo by Jackie Johnston

Word From Down Under

A most interesting phone call came in at 8 am Dec. 19/06, a time when most folks are gearing up for the day and for me as I was heading out the door to an early appointment. This call was from New Zealand from a Gena Johnston who was wanting to find out more about grass roots of Johnstons! Evidently she had seen my name along with someone else from the USA in a Scottish newspaper but decided to phone me as a fellow British Commonwealth person, I guess. Unfortunately I was not able to talk with her very long, just enough to get her address. After confirming with President Steve that there were Clan Johnston reps in NZ and Aus. I wrote her and enclosed lots of CJA things. Amazing the far reach of the press and even more so my name.

Editors note: I get the Clan Johnston newsletters from New Zealand and Austrailia and they get ours. They like to keep in touch with their fellow clan members in the USA and Canada. We exchange information when we can. If you would like to contact the editors of those newsletters, to get more information, email me at jackiejohnston@mchsi.com and I will forward your email to them.



An item in a recent Maclean's magazine I thought worth passing along —

“Britain: Bagpipes are Never Really Safe —

The British Army has issued orders concerning the use of bagpipes. From now on pipers are restricted to practising for no more than 15 minutes a day indoors and 24 minutes outdoors. Army officials fear lawsuits from those forced to listen to the pipes, noting that they produce 111 decibels, which is louder than pneumatic drills. In additions, pipers will be required to wear earplugs while playing. No similar relief in store for the listeners, though.”

Gaelic Speaking

In the May/June issue of Celtic Heritage there was an interesting article about Linden MacIntyre. Canadians will know him as one of our distinguished broadcast journalists. He's reported and worked on projects from Middle East, Africa, Eastern Europe, Soviet Union and Central America. He is a proud 6th generation Cape Bretoner whose father's first language was Gaelic; who grandmother did not speak English. As a young reporter living in Sydney in 1969 he attended a night class to study and learn Gaelic. From that group the Gaelic Society of Cape Breton was formed. He said “ I hear that there's 500 Gaelic speakers left in Cape Breton. We used to hear the number 1500. When we got the Gaelic Society going we discovered it was a whole lot more than that. There were a whole lot of people who wouldn't even write down on the census that they were Gaelic speakers because they thought it wasn't worth writing down or they didn't think they were Gaelic speakers. My father would say ‘ I can't speak Gaelic’ and yet I would sit in the kitchen of parents place and listen to them speak a day without hearing a single word of English. But they couldn't speak Gaelic, oh no. ‘We're not like the people in the Old Country, they know how to speak Gaelic’ Then when the Old country people came over here they said ‘This Gaelic is more pure than what we've got over there’.

This is just a short sample of the type of article that is published in the Celtic Heritage magazine. Always a good read.

The Kilt Pin

Submitted by Carol Koeslag (Information from “The Bridge” Clans Society of Canada)

Before the reign of Queen Victoria, the Scottish kilt was worn without the kilt pin. Since no undergarments are worn beneath a kilt, there were some embarrassing moments especially if worn in a high wind.

One day, Queen Victoria arrived on a visit to Balmoral Castle and reviewed the Gordon Highlanders. A stiff wind was blowing and one young soldier, at rigid attention, was unable to control the flapping of his kilt and to avoid exposure on this important occasion. The queen noticed his embarrassment and walked over to him. She removed a pin from her own dress, and leaning over, pinned the overlap of his kilt. And that, believe it or not, is the origin of the kilt pin, without which no kilted Scot would be properly dressed today.

Welcome new Ontario CJA members. (See page 3).

About Kilts, Kilt hose, and Cummertrees

by Hugh Reekie

In discussions with Carol Koeslag of Peterborough, Ontario at the Glengarry Highland Games in August this year, I was asked to write an article about the wearing of the kilt for this Newsletter. So here are some comments, with a little historical personal background.

I have been wearing the kilt for weddings, Scottish events and for church services since I was eight years old. My Aunt Marian, who sang in a Gaelic choir and became President of the Manchester (England) Gaelic Society (An Comunn Gaidhealach) kitted me out with a teenage kilt. She usually wore her Johnstone tartan long skirt for some occasions and for such as occasions as the Society picnic, she would wear her Johnstone Kilt.

She was proud of her Johnstone connections, and she gave me two family portraits painted in 1869: one is of Mary Ann Hoult, a nurse from Derbyshire, England who ended up in Manchester. The other is of David Robert Paterson, born in Ecclefechan, Dumfries-shire; he ended up running the Equitable Life Insurance Company. David's mother was a Jean Johnstone who is buried in Cummertrees churchyard, Dumfries-shire.

When I graduated to a larger kilt, my Aunt Marian was emphatic that it be worn such that the lower hem be just above the floor when kneeling. Later, when planning for a Scottish dance tour of the Black Forest, Germany, correct wearing of kilt hose was emphasized. I was informed that with a bent knee, four closed fingers should lie between the knee bend and the top of the hose; if necessary, the hose tops should be turned down considerably, and then "doubled back up" to provide this requirement.

I well remember the only time that I received a severe reprimand for my style of wearing Scottish dress. During a school Scottish "mobile camp" or summer Trek, I was wearing my Maxwell kilt. The Camp leader was attired in a Black Watch kilt, with khaki hose and military short jacket. On a hot day I had exchanged my kilt hose for short socks. Our leader - proud of his Scots military service - looked me up and down, and was horrified.

Later, one morning's trek in heavy rain turned to bright sunshine. My kilt dried out, but it was all ruffled like a cavaliers collar! I threw the garment into a river, laid out the pleats carefully, and finally slept on it; the kilt dried slowly, but the pleats returned.

My new kilt is an "old colours" Anderson, my wife's tartan. It fits me, but it is high on the waist, as I wear it with the hem above the floor, using the kneeling test. Our Ottawa kiltmaker explained that there were "Short kilts" and "High kilts". Mine was obviously a "high kilt" - this solved another problem; when wearing a Prince Charles Edward highland jacket, with associated double-breasted black waistcoat, there should be no visible "white shirt" showing between waistcoat and kilt, and the high top solved that problem for me. I encourage those men with "short kilts" and a band of white shirt visible across the stomach to wear a cummerbund when wearing a black waistcoat. The present habit of some men, wearing a kilt as if it were a pair of hipster jeans - with the top of the kilt below their rounded stomach - is not the best, in my opinion. In most cases the kilt hem is too low as well.

Gentlemen, please, look at yourself in the mirror, and decide if modifications to the wearing of your kilted attire are appropriate or necessary. Wear your kilt with pride; as you walk around, remember that some in your audience may have strong opinions as to how it should be worn!



Johnson / Johnston / Johnstone (JJJ) Surname

My article and supporting research seek to identify the origins of the Johnson / Johnston / Johnstone (JJJ) surname, not individual Johnston/es or Johnson's that may have relocated or changed names. It is necessary to know something about the cultures, customs, languages, and areas that were occupied when a surname originated, which helps in tracking how it evolved through time and across countries..

Surnames were not in use before the Norman Conquest of 1066. Prior to that time, individuals used names that identified them as members of a Chieftain's tribe or clan: The Celts, Highlanders and Irish use "son of" in the form of O' and Mac, as in Ireland's O' Neils and Scotland's MacNeils. Anglo Saxons added "ing" to a father's name, such as Browning. The Norse added "sson" (for Chieftain's son) to the son's father's first name, such as Erik the Red and his son Leif Eriksson. The Norman French (or Norman) use of "de" is from the Latin word meaning "of"; they inserted it between the name of the noble and the land he owned, so that Gilbert de Jonestun translates as Gilbert of Jones (John's) tun (land or farm). In general lease holders, serfs, and others living on a chieftain or owners land adopted his surname, except in the case when it the surname was of the "son" origin

The JJJ surname originated in the western Scottish Borders, in Annandale, after the Norman Conquest. The first recorded Annandale JJJ was Gilbert de Jonestun. The "de" was dropped soon after, evolving to many spellings over time: Jonestoun; Johnestoune; Johnstoun; Johnston; Johnstone, and Johnson. In general lease holders, serfs, and others living on a chieftain or owners land adopted his surname, except in the case when the surname was of the "son" origin. Caskieben JJJs originated in the western Scottish Borders also, but are associated with the Aberdeenshire area of Scotland. Some Johnson's have other origins (e.g., from the Norse Johansson) and are claimed by other clans — for example Johnson's claimed by Clan Gunn account for less than 5 % of all Johnson's, and Johnson's claimed by Clan MacDonald account for less than 2% of all Johnson's. Interestingly, Perth's original name, St. Johnstoun, originated from the name of a Priest (John), which then evolved into St Johnston; some people from that area adopted the JJJ surname.

The different spellings of a surname can also be the result of differences in nationality, literacy and pronunciation of individuals bearing the surname and of record keepers (e.g., immigration officials). For example, Johnston is pronounced by Scots as "Jawnsoun". The Johnstons in Ulster were known as the "aye less Johnstone" as "e" was pronounced "aye". Many variations of other surnames exist too – for example, MacIntyre; MacAntuer & McKantare are all recognized as the same surname. Only 13 % of Americans had a High School Diploma in 1915 according to Census records, so it may be likely that someone other than your ancestors determined the spelling of your surname on immigration records and other documents.

The effects on the JJJ surname and of migrations from Scotland to Ulster and then to the New World (U.S., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the Caribbean) are particularly interesting. The first leg of these migrations began in 1606 when King James I of the now-unified England and Scotland opened the Ulster Colony as a way of dealing with the "Irish question" and as a means of pacifying the Scottish Borders too. Many Border Scots, and especially JJJs, took the King up on his offer of land grants, an offer which was often coupled with threats of deportation. These "Planters of the Ulster Colony" began to migrate to the New World in the 18th Century.. In the 18th Century, U.S. and Canadian immigration records list Johnson as Irish, whereas in the 19th Century, the "t" remained most of the time, almost always so in Canada. During this same period, emigrants directly from Scotland to the New World usually retained the "t" and the "e". To make matters more confusing, the "t" is often removed and then reappears on different documents for the same individual, and in writings of the individuals themselves as late as the 1860s (note the article by Bart Johnston in the Summer 2006 Spur and Phoenix). Today, the overwhelming majority (85%) of American Johnson's and Johnston's are descendants of the Ulster Planter JJJs that began leaving Ulster in the early 1700s.

The bottom line – the spelling of your surname may have changed from the spelling of the surname of your first documented ancestor, and it may have changed many times. It may have changed as your ancestors relocated and modified the surname. People other than your relatives, especially those who prepared immigration and other documents, may also have modified it. This is all part of your heritage!

We stayed in Edinburgh over night and were picked up again the next morning and driven south to Dumfriesshire and Buckrig where we had coffee with a Dumfriesshire genealogist and historian. She kept us fascinated for a too short hour with the history of the border reivers and the Johnstone Clan and their “feudin’ and a fightin’”. We lunched at the Globe Inn in Dumfries, a place where Robert Burns frequented, and then on to Moffat. In the Moffat churchyard cemetery, we found many Johnstone/e graves sites and the amazing memorials erected in Scotland that contain whole genealogies carved in the stone! The notice on the gate to the old cemetery in Moffat says “In this old churchyard is the ruin of a pre-reformation church bearing coats of arms of the Johnstone and Maxwell families.....”

We also visited Wamphry Church and cemetery which is filled with the ghosts of long ago Johnstone/e family members, It was a lovely sun-filled morning when we visited, yet even the sun felt ancient in this old churchyard.

Poldean, ancient spelling Poldene, is a beautiful farm situated in one of those green and glowing river valleys that is considered the “home base” of our Johnstone/e family. The farm house has a Johnstone coat of arms carved into the stone foundation. The family that “owns” (the land is “leased from the Queen” in perpetuity, the present and long time managers told us) the farm just received top prize for his cattle. He and his wife described the terrible times the Scottish farmers went through when all their animals were destroyed to preclude further infection of the hoof and mouth disease that affected a few animals in 2001.



The highlight of our tour was an invitation for lunch at Raehills, the seat of the Hope-Johnstone family. What a gorgeous place! David and Penny and their two children greeted us, David gave us a tour of the home and grounds, and Penny hosted a lovely lunch for us. What made it special was the warm hospitality with which we were greeted and made to feel welcome. This house has great portraits in the main hall and in almost

every room and treasures collected by the ancestral Admiral over a long career. The rooms have been beautifully restored to their earlier grandeur while still remaining a home for a family with two small children.



Raehills, Home to David and Penny Hope-Johnstone



David Hope-Johnstone showing family portraits to George Johnston and Sharon Johnston Maasch



Chair seat embroidered with the family coat of arms.

Editor's note: This article was sent in Microsoft Word format and some photos could not be re-formatted to be included in the article. Please send photos separate from the article either through email or regular mail. Clarity is also lost in the formatting when copying from a Word file.

After leaving Raehills, we viewed Lochwood Tower, another Johnston/e home in a completely different era and ambience. Because of its condition, we were not allowed to actually walk on the picturesque site.



See Dr. Edwards's article in the June 2004 Spur and Phoenix describing the efforts to preserve this historic site.

Lovely dinners throughout, a ceilidh arranged around the fireplace in Lesley and Peter Gray's home, walking Princess Street in Edinburgh while the various film, music and art festivals of August were ongoing and visiting the castle there and the place where the Tattoo took place each evening, a little shopping; it was a dream vacation!



Florence and Sharon Johnston opt for a ride back to the hotel after an afternoon walking Princess Street and environs on our last day in wonderful Edinburgh!

We cannot speak too highly of Scottish Ancestral Trails and especially Lesley Gray, who epitomized the warmth and hospitality of her beautiful country. Our driver, Peter Falconer, had a great sense of humor and much patience. He impressed us with his love of family and

country and deep knowledge of its history. We all fell in love with Scotland and its people. Lesley says, Haste Ye Back, and surely, we want to do so!

It was on to the highlands of Scotland after Scottish Ancestral Trails, and then to Ireland and though we saw much spectacular scenery, enjoyed more than one pint o' Guinness, and met wonderful people every where we went, this visit to the lowlands of Scotland touched particular places in our hearts (and genetic memories?) that will stay with us always.

Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk

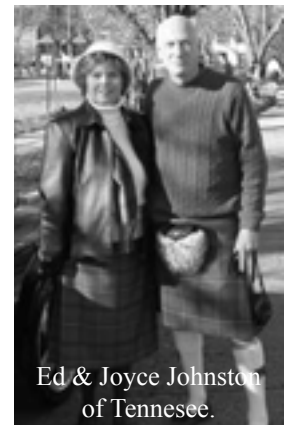
Alexandria, Virginia

By Ed & Joyce Johnston

Have you ever wonder what it would be like to take a step back in time and start your holiday season off with a walk down the main street of a town founded by the Scot's in 1749 and named in the honor of John Alexander. Well Ed and I did just that on December 2, 2006. We located our designated spot to meet in the parade, where we meant up with other Johnston Clan members and the lady in charge of keeping all of us fun loving, parade happy Johnston's in line, Kathie Bailey Mathae.

The weather was beautiful, a little on the cool side but from what we had been told by other people in the parade this was great compared to some other years where they really had to bundle up for the cold and even sometimes rain. The streets were lined with people for miles, some in kilts and others not. They were all waiting and hoping to see their Clan walk by, and even jump in and join them in the Scottish Walk. The homes and businesses were beautifully decorated for the season. There were over a hundred and twenty units in the parade including Clans, marching bands, different Scottish organizations and lets not forget our fine four legged animals (dogs) in all shapes and sizes, mans best friend. Of course no parade is complete without Santa!

It was great meeting our new friends, Kathie Bailey Mathae, Lee Cattell, Walter Page, Lauren Mathae, Andrew Johnston, Hal Dobbs and Emily Mathae, who walked in the parade with us. You're great! We had such a wonderful time and would suggest this type of start for anyone's holiday season.



Johnston Family Reunion

by Diane Coblentz

Aunts, uncles, and cousins by the dozens travel far and wide to our Johnston Family reunion, held every other year around the 12th of June. It is usually held in a 'well used', older motel in the mountains above Boulder, Colorado. There is a mountain stream and swimming pool for the children, and a variety of activities available; horseback riding, hiking in the mountains, golf, or shopping in Boulder. There have been years when we had more than 100 attend, but as the older members of the family have 'gotten their wings' the attendance has dropped. One year there were over 70 people directly descended from our mother. This year we had over 50 in attendance, a small but fun group, which provided ample opportunities for some great pictures.

This photo is of my 6ft. 5 inch son, meeting his cousin's 4ft 11 inch fiancé. Tracy (Coblentz) immediately dropped to his knees so he could greet Christy Thornley, sort of face to face.



Christy Thornley & Tracy Coblentz



Our mother was an aspiring poet during the years she was rearing the eight of us kids, and once she wrote:

"If I were as good
As I am prolific,
I'd be terrific!"

This second picture of the gang of wee Johnston children made me think the rest of the family followed mother's example.

Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk



Left to right: Kathie Bailey Mathae, Lee Cattell, Walter Page, Ed Johnston, Joyce Johnston, Lauren Mathae, Andrew Johnston and Emily Mathae



Clan Johnston's waiting their turn to go in the parade. Holding sign Joyce Johnston, Kathie Bailey Mathae, Walter Page, back row Lauren Mathae, Lee Cattell holding flag and Hal Dobbs.

Continued from page 15.

CJA members truly missed the participation this year of Robert Johnston who for many years had marched with us wearing a Santa cap and beard, worn a green Santa sweater, and carrying a McClaus sign. The crowd loved him, and would cheer for CJA from one end of the parade route to the other because of him. During this year's parade, Robert's wife came out of the crowd to tell us that he had passed away in May. Robert will long be remembered for the way he touched our lives.

Clan Johnston/e in America

Merchandise & Price List

Effective December 1, 2006

Please Note: Prices listed first in shipping column are for one item.

Amount listed second is for each additional, "same" piece (e.a.p.) in one shipment

Item	Price	Shipping	Item	Price	Shipping
TRAVEL RUGS			CLAN CREST NECKTIES	\$21.00	\$ 3.50 each
(Throws) 56"x 72" – 100% Wool	\$69.00	\$10.00 each	Navy Poly w/repeated Crest		\$ 1.50 e.a.p.
Ribbed collar and cuffs – Annandale		\$ 4.00 e.a.p.	woven into Material – Annandale Only		
Johnston Modern Colors ONLY					
TARTAN WOOL MATERIAL	\$58.00	\$ 3.50 each	TARTAN NECKTIES	\$19.00	\$ 3.50 each
100% Worsted Wool, 56" wide	per yard	\$ 1.00 e.a.p.	100% Wool 4.8 oz or 10/11 oz		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
New Wool 12/13 ox. Ideal for Kilts			a) Modern b) Old Colors		
SPECIFY a) Modern b) Old Colors					
POLY / RAYON MATERIAL			LADIES SASHES	\$38.00	\$ 3.00 each
60" Wide, Old Colors ONLY	\$12.50	\$ 3.50 each	Worsted, 100% Wool, 4.8 oz.		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
Light weight, small pattern and washable		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.	Tie Weight, 10"x88" w/2" fringe		
			SPECIFY Modern or Old Colors		
SILK TIES	\$45.00	\$ 4.00 each	6 PIECE TAMS		
Regimental Stripe, Johnston colors		\$ 1.50 e.a.p.	Worsted Wool 4.8oz or 10/11oz	\$31.00	\$ 3.00 each
Goes with either Old Colors or			Matches Sashes above & Scarves below		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
Modern Kilt. Classy with a suit too			SPECIFY Modern or Old Colors		
HEAVY WEIGHT SCARVES	\$19.00	\$ 3.50 each	SCARVES		
Lambs Wool Scarf 12"x 82"		\$ 1.50 e.a.p.	Worsted Wool 4.8oz Tie Weight	\$25.00	\$ 3.00 each
While they last Modern ONLY			SPECIFY: Modern or Old Colors		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
JEWELRY:			NOTE: All Wool Material Items are made in the U.K.		
CLAN CREST CAP BADGE			KEY FOBS		
or Ladies Brooch 1 5/8" dia.	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each	Small Crest Badge mounted on	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each
Rhodium plated Annandale ONLY!		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.	Leather w/ring for keys		\$.75 e.a.p.
KILT PINS			PENDANATS		
Small Crest Badge on	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each	Small Crest Badge on 16" chain	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each
Claymore Pins Rhodium plated		\$ 1.00 each	Rhodium plated / Annandale Only		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
Annandale ONLY!					
LAPEL PINS			<i>For Caskieben Jewelry, contact the Johnstone at the</i>		
Small Crest Badge	\$19.00	\$ 2.50 each	<i>number or address on the Order Form. There are no more</i>		
For Men or Ladies, Rhodium plated		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.	<i>Caskieben Crest Badges. Other items extremely limited.</i>		
Annandale ONLY!					
FOR MEMBERS ONLY!					
MEDALLION ON RIBBON	\$40.00	\$ 2.50 each	LADIES PENDANT	\$30.00	\$ 3.00 each
Beautiful Gold Insignia exactly like that used in the center of the Service Medal. About 1/2" in dia. Life Members ONLY-					
Please provide Membership Number.					
BOOKS:			HISTORY BOOKLET	\$ 9.00	\$ 2.50 each
THE "GENTLE" JOHNSTONS	\$20.00	\$ 3.50 each	by Cascade Publishing		\$ 1.00 e.a.p.
By Russell Honey			Condensed from the The Great Historic		
A wealth of information and insight into all Johnstons			Families of Scotland		
And their history of migration from Scotland to Ireland					
and then to North America.					

Item	Price	Shipping	Item	Price	Shipping
POLO/GOLF SHIRTS	\$40.00	\$4.00 each	SWEATSHIRTS	\$38.00	\$4.50 each
Navy Blue or Hunter Green		\$1.25 e.a.p.	Hunter Green ONLY		\$2 e.a.p.
Striped ribbed collar and cuffs			Adult Sizes Med., Lg., & XLg. ONLY		
Adult Sizes Med., Lg. & XLg. ONLY					
TARTAN & CREST MUGS	\$13.25	\$4.00 each	MOUSE PADS	\$14.25	\$3.50 each
Dishwasher & Microwave Safe China		\$2.00 e.a.p.	Tartan & Crest		\$1.50 e.a.p.
Design is not Dishwasher Safe			approx. 8" x 11"		
LICENSE PLATE	\$19.25	\$3.50 each	TRIVIT (Hot Plate)	\$15.50	\$3.00 each
Tartan & Crest / Styrene type plastic		\$1.50 e.a.p.	Tartan & Crest Ceramic Tile / Square		\$1.50 e.a.p.
NOTE PADS	\$ 5.00	\$2.00 each	MUSICAL BAGPIPE MAGNET	\$10.00	\$2.00 each
Give your notes & messages some color		\$1.00 e.a.p.	Bagpipe is in Johnston Tartan		\$1.00 e.a.p.
JOHNSTON HISTORY	\$10.50	\$3.50 each			
On Parchment 8 1/2" x 11"		\$1.50 e.a.p.			
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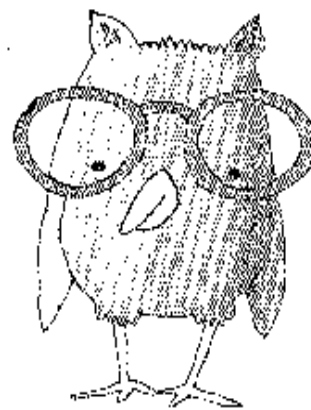
Youth Page

by Billye Tellingner

ANSWERS TO NAME QUIZ

William – Wallace
Robert – The Bruce
John – Baliol
Flora – McDonald
Walter – Scott
Mary – Stuart
Rob Roy – McGregor
Bobby – Greyfriars
Charles – McIntosh
Patrick – Lord Annandale

(Sadly, there were NO entries for this contest; perhaps you were all busy thinking of your “wish list” for Christmas?) But, gee kids, you could have made an easy \$10.00! Not to worry, I am going to give you another opportunity with this issue.



SCOTS SMART

As long as you are going to be wandering about in Scotland, you might as well learn some of the most common words for the landscape:

“ben” ~ a mountain or a hill
“dun” ~ hill fortress, castle
“glen” ~ narrow valley
“tobar” ~ well
“drum” ~ ridge of a hill

“loch” ~ lake
“brae” ~ slope, height
“inver” ~ river mouth
“inch” ~ island
“kyle” ~ narrow straight

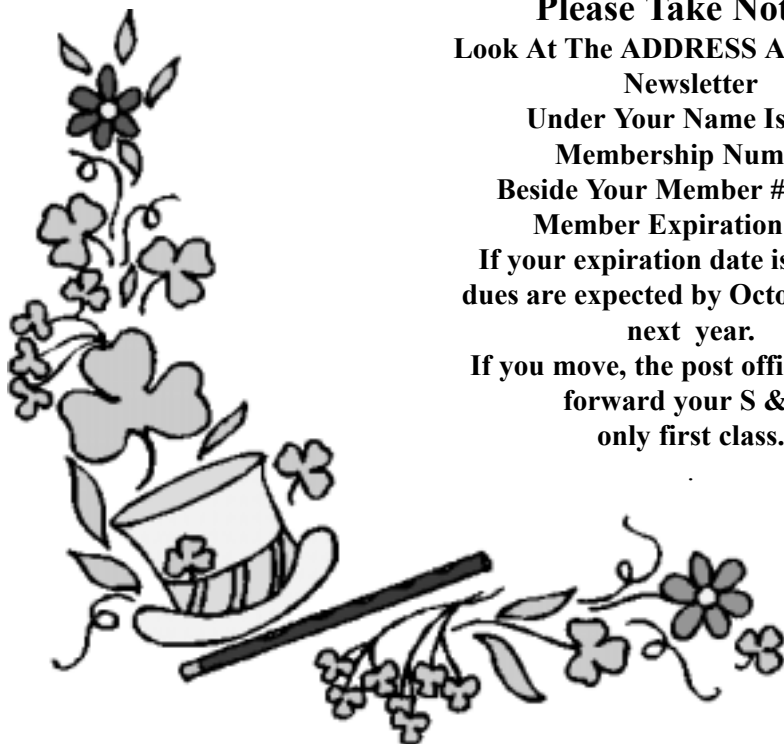
WHERE IS IT ???

Here is a map of Scotland. Well, OK, I am not much of an artist! But it is *sort of* a map!! Now, what I would like for all you kids to do, is to match the places listed below with the numbers on the map (and *of course* it is permissible for you to con your parents into helping you ~ how else are you going to learn you way around Scotland?) Oh, *wait*, I have just thought of a better way to learn your way around Scotland ~ have your parents take you there in person! OK, here is the list:

- Inverness
- Glasgow
- Grenta Green
- Edinburgh
- Skye
- John O’ Groats
- Aberdeen
- Stirling



Send your brilliant answers to: Billye Tellingner, 7473 Dale Court, Westminster, CO 80030 by May 1, 2007. And naturally you will be rewarded with a \$10.00 prize if you get them all correct. Good hunting!



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Canadians: Please contact Carol Koeslag about dues information. See page 2 for contact information.

Send members address changes & renewals to: Margot Johnston, P.O. Box 71, Goffstown, NH 03045

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