

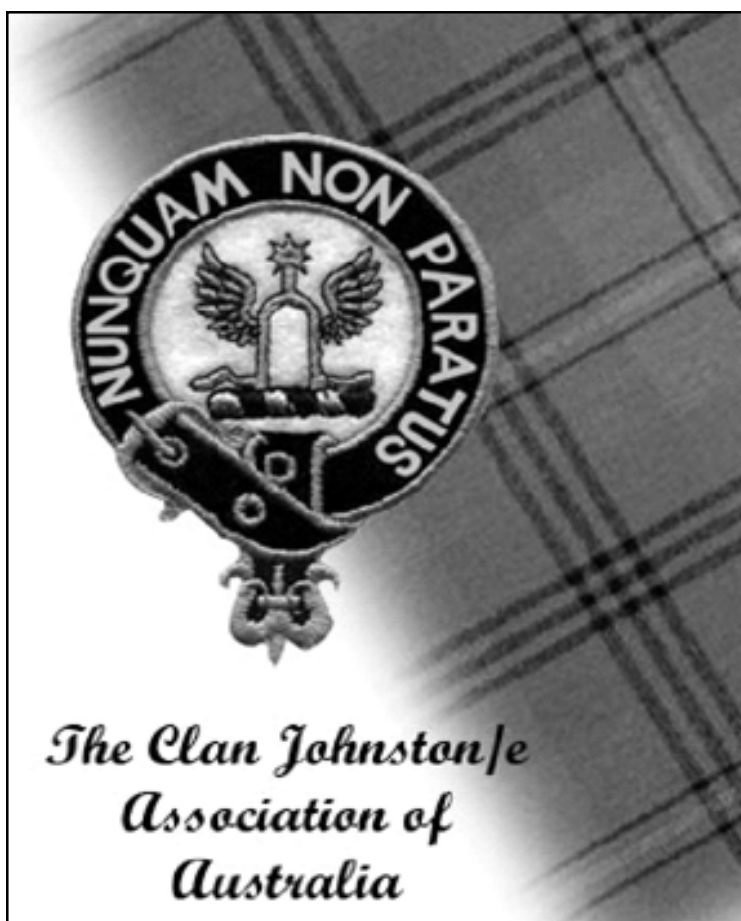


The Winter 2008
Spur and Phoenix



Chief: The Right Honourable Earl of Annandale and Hartfell

Clan Johnston/e in America



We would like to congratulate the Clan Johnston/e Association of Australia on their new design for the cover of their newsletter. It is full color and quite beautiful. This was sent by Des Johnstone, Chief Commissioner of the organization. Peg Gilchrist, editor of their newsletter, does a wonderful job. Clan Johnston/e Association of Australia is one of four organizations worldwide that represents Clan Johnston/e. There are the United Kingdom and New Zealand associations as well. We have received articles from Les Hewitt, editor of the newsletter for New Zealand Clan Johnston/e. It is fun to see what other Clan Johnston/e's around the world are doing. If you would like to see more, visit their websites at www.johnston.asn.au for Australia, www.johnston_nz.tripod.com for New Zealand, and www.johnstoneclan.org.uk as well as our CJA website at www.clanjohnstone.org. If you like what you see, send them a note and tell them. As the editor of the Spur and Phoenix, I am fortunate to get messages from down under. I feel like I have friends around the world. Join in the fun, check them out.

Jackie Johnston, Editor

Vol.28

No.4

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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.

From the Editor

* Please read the newsletter policies in the Winter 2006 issue for information on submitting articles. If you need a copy of the policies, email me. *Jackie*

* 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

February 7, 2009

President's Letter

What a great time we had at our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on August 9 in Fergus, Ontario! We accomplished a lot of business (see the minutes elsewhere in this issue), but I think what we all enjoyed most was the fun and fellowship. I never knew we had so many entertainers in Clan Johnston/e in America (CJA) until I asked each person to introduce themselves!

In my last letter, I thanked our three outgoing Council members for their fine work over many years of service to CJA. In this letter, we're welcoming our three new Council members: Cathy Postier, our new Secretary, who lives in New Hampshire; Joan J. Diminie, our new At Large representative, who lives in Ontario; and Betty Watts, our new National Membership Commissioner, who lives in Georgia (the state, not the country). Please help support their efforts in these important roles.

Thanks again to Carol Koeslag for arranging our AGM. And now for a sneak preview of coming attractions: our 2009 AGM is being planned for Loon Mountain, NH, our 2010 AGM for Pleasanton, CA, and our 2011 AGM for Estes Park, CO. Stay tuned for details on exact dates and other details, and we hope to see you at one or more of them!

Have a wonderful holiday season, whatever your faith may be. Keep in mind not only your immediate family and friends, but also your extended CJA family and persons at home and around the world who are in need, and those in our military services. And last but not least, keep in mind those families in military service to our country. I was most impressed recently by the number of Johnstons in the military who stopped by our tent at the Williamsburg, VA Scottish Festival, an area that is full of military bases. Thanks to Don and Carol Boebel, our tent sponsors there, for making this possible!



Clan Aye,
Steve Johnston

Stephen Johnston, Joan and Donald Diminie at the AGM..

Cead Mile Failte

A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members.

Lea Dawn Loukonen- Jackson - Wyoming,
MN
M/M Benjamin Spencer - Chicago IL
M/M James Johnston - St. Charles I
Jeanne Johnston - Snohomish, WA
M/M Paul Johnston - Kent, WA
Michael R. Johnston - Seattle, WA
James Johnston - Chino Valley, AZ
Donna Hart - North Bend, WA

M/M Rick Johnston - Livingston, MT
M/M Kenneth Adler - Rollinsville, CO
M/M Arthur Johnston - Jonesborough, TN
M/M Dwight Sterling - Monument, CO
Betsy Johnstone - Thetford Ctr. , VT
Elizabeth Johnston & Stephen Capeccio - Westwood, MA
David Dennis, Jr - Fort Collins, CO
Dr. Elizabeth Perry - Newton, NJ
M/M Alan Bold and son Samuel, daughters Sara Ann
and Hanna Beth - Wheaton, IL

Genealogy Corner

Barbara Hockman

As the year winds down, it's nice to look back at all the fun time spent attending highlands games and meeting others that share a desire to connect with their heritage. I want to extend a hardy welcome to the new "cousins" that have joined our Johnston/e ranks this past year and urge them to submit their genealogical data so it can be entered into the Clan database. A simple pedigree chart will suffice and hopefully produce a distant relative to help you understand or expand your family history.

If you do not use a genealogical program which allows you to print off a pedigree chart, you can download one with explanations of how to write in the data from <http://www.byub.org/ANCESTORS/charts/pdf/pedigree.pdf>. The main website is a great place for those who are new to genealogical research and have questions on how to proceed.

In previous articles I related how the LDS Familysearch site had instituted a project where you could index records for their site. Ancestry.com has instituted a similar program. The indexes will be free on their site, but the images will still only be available to paying members. For those who download the program and index records for them, they will give you a break on their subscription price. Remember, most libraries let their patrons access Ancestry for free but if you are a paying customer, this would be a way to lower the cost if you have the time to index for them. You can get the info on their website.

Ever thought about researching your family home? The Kansas Historical Society has a great article/checklist on how to go about this. You can find it at <http://www.kshs.org/genealogists/househistorychecklist.pdf>.

Happy hunting!



Flowers of the Forest

Isabelle Hinks of Dover, DE

Scottish Screen Archive

Submitted by Les Hewitt

The National Library of Scotland has recently launched the Scottish Screen Archive at <http://ssa.nls.uk>. The archive contains film and video of over 100 years of Scotland's history with material relating both to 20th century Scottish social, cultural and industrial history, and the lives of ordinary people.

The archive houses more than 32,000 items, mostly factual, including documentaries, newsreels, educational material, television and public information films, along with industrial, advertising and promotional material.

The online catalogue can be searched by place, subject, biography or decade. Each entry contains a fairly full description of the film with a list of individual scenes. For around 1,000 of the items clips are available for viewing on the website.

My Summer Project

by Jackie Johnston

I have spent the whole summer on genealogy and found a couple of websites that have been very helpful for searching for people in the USA and what is great is, they are free!

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com Click on the World Wide Trees and when it comes up, type in the name you are searching to see if there are any family trees on that person. This is good for other countries too but mainly for the USA. Be careful to double check information as some of it is based on assumptions. I found several mistakes in some of our families because they lacked information that I had. But it is a good place to start.

www.censusfinder.com is a good site but it doesn't contain all census data but it too is a start.

You can also use your search engine and put in the name of the person you want to find. I found an record for a Revolutionary War pension from an ancestor online plus many pioneer sketches or early settler records. Just put in the name and the words "early settler" or "pioneer". If there is anything on your ancestor, it may come up. Use different search engines as they may have different information. Some family trees are online that are not on Rootsweb. Using the search engine will also show a lot of other sites to find information for those who are beginners in their genealogical searching.



Famous Johnstons

Johnstons, Picketts and the Lost Cause

By Bart Johnston

When Peter Johnston arrived in Virginia from Annandale, Scotland in 1726, he had no idea that his son, Peter would become a Revolutionary War officer under the legendary Francis Marion, the Swampfox, and that two other descendents would become among the Confederacy's most famous general officers, Joseph E. Johnston and George E. Pickett.

George Pickett was born in Richmond, VA in 1825, in the house of his maternal grandfather, Robert Johnston. Johnston was a merchant in the highly successful firm of Pickett, Pollard & Johnston. His daughter, Mary had married Robert Pickett, the son of another partner. Young George was educated in the best schools in Richmond and when he graduated from Richmond Academy, he left the South to work in his uncle's law office in Quincy, Illinois.

Andrew Johnston, Mary's brother, was a brilliant lawyer and graduate of the University of Virginia. He went to Quincy in 1837, opened a law office and became editor of the Quincy Whig newspaper. Andrew befriended another young Whig lawyer, Abe Lincoln, who shared his love of law, politics, poetry and literature. Johnston published at least two of Lincoln's poems in his newspaper. Their surviving correspondence shows that Lincoln would always begin his letters to Andrew, "Friend Johnston."

In Quincy, young Pickett found little interest in the law and instead desired the life of an army officer, as did so many Virginian aristocratic sons. It was nearly impossible to get an appointment to West Point from his own state so he enlisted his Uncle Andrew's help in procuring one from Illinois. Johnston asked for the help of Illinois Whig Representative Stuart and it is likely he asked Lincoln for his help as well because Abe was a friend of Stuart's. Pickett was accepted as the Illinois appointment to West Point and graduated in 1846.

Lt. Pickett served with distinction in the Mexican War and stayed in the Army until 1861, when he resigned his Captain's commission to serve in the Confederate Army. He was commissioned Colonel and then became the Confederacy's twentieth general officer. Pickett was wounded at Gaines Mill and after recovery in October of 1862 he was promoted Major General and given a Division in the Corps of his old friend, James Longstreet.

Gettysburg was the bloodiest battle in American history and arguably the most famous action of that battle, and possibly the war, was "Pickett's Charge." Because his Division brought up the rear of Longstreet's Corps, they did not get to Gettysburg until late on the second day. His men were fresh and ready for a fight; knowing this, Lee ordered Pickett's Division to lead the attack on the Union middle on the final day of battle. He shared the field with the Division of his cousin, Henry Heth, who had been wounded on the first day and had been replaced by Johnston Pettigrew. As the sun set behind South Mountain in the evening of July 3, 1863 at Gettysburg, it also set on Lee's Army of Northern Virginia and the Confederacy. Pickett and Pettigrew left over 6,000 men on the field that afternoon and George Pickett never recovered from the carnage of so many young and promising lives.

After the war he often took to bed with periods of depression and endured accusations from North Carolina that he had abandoned his men on the field at Gettysburg. His staff zealously defended his valor and leadership, as did his wife, Sally, and his son. In 1911, Colonel Mosby wrote that he ran into George Pickett in Richmond in 1870 and reported that he was coming from Gen. Lee's hotel where the General looked very haggard. Pickett said that he would like to pay his respects but didn't want to go alone and asked Mosby to accompany him, which he did. The meeting was cold and formal, according to Mosby, and embarrassing to both generals. It was their only meeting after the war. After they left, Pickett spoke bitterly of Lee as "that old man." "He had my division massacred at Gettysburg," spat Pickett contemptuously. "Well, it made you immortal," Mosby replied.

George Pickett was to live only five more years, dying in 1875 on the family estate near Malvern Hill, the site of another slaughter of Southern troops by Federal artillery.

Johnston Family Reunion Marks 150 years in Russell County

By Kenneth Johnston

A reunion of the descendents of John Walker and Sarah Jane Davis Johnston was held Saturday, July 26, 2008 in Hatchechubbee, Russell County, Alabama. Douglas Johnston and Billy Johnston planned and arranged for the reunion to be held at the Hatchechubbee Baptist Church. 150 members of the family from eight states were present and enjoyed a great day. A meal of barbeque chicken and pork was catered and followed by a presentation by Kenneth Johnston on the genealogy of James Johnston, Sr., born in 1786.

Elmyra Johnston, widow of Alexander Johnston and eldest son of James Johnston Sr., moved her family from Talbot County, Georgia to Hatchechubbee, Russell County, Alabama in 1858. Their descendents have lived continuously in Russell County since then, either near or in Hatchechubbee. John Walker Johnston, second son of Alexander and Elmyra Johnston, moved with the family and married Sarah Jane Davis in 1866. The reunion marked 150 years of Johnstons in Russell County.



The oldest attendee, Grace Johnston Houston, greeting the youngest attendee, Landon Kyle Johnston, who is being held by his grandmother, Peggy Johnston.



Douglas Johnston, organizer of the reunion.

Clan Johnston/e's AGM in 2009

Once again CJA will have an AGM in New Hampshire.

Next year, September 18, 19 and 20, Clan Johnston/e in America will host it's AGM during the New Hampshire Highland Games.

20 rooms have been reserved at the Beacon Resort in Lincoln, NH. The Beacon will also handle our Saturday night dinner in the Clermont Room. Rooms are \$ 144.00 per night with 8% tax, the total being \$155.52. That includes a continental breakfast. That price with the breakfast is for however many nights you stay. There is availability to upgrade to a suite if you wish, or a limited number to downsize to a cabin. However, the price of \$99.00 for a cabin does not include the continental breakfast.

AGM tickets will be \$40.00

Watch for more complete information in January.

Beacon Resort - 800-343-8777

Margot & Arthur Johnston 603-497-3281



Pleasanton Games

by Karen Johnston Klein

We had a wonderful turnout at the 143 Scottish Highland Gathering and Games 2008, Pleasanton CA. Thirty-three people visited us and signed our guestbook. It was a beautiful two days with weather in the mid 80's. We enjoyed meeting many Johnston's and telling them about their Scottish heritage. There were a few people who thought they were British and were delighted to find out about the castle, crest and motto. On Sunday all the Clans were presented to the special guest, Captain Oliver W. Hamilton II, USN(Ret.), BA, MBA, FSA Scot, GOTJ. He was appointed The High Commissioner of Clan Hamilton by His Grace, Angus, The 15th Duke of Hamilton in the spring of 2006. It was very nice to meet him. We also met Alan Purves, Chief of the Caledonian Club of San Francisco.

The Pleasanton Games have some fun vendors to visit. Brown's English Toffee is the best toffee I have ever tasted. I visited British grocers and stocked up with my favorite Yorkshire Gold tea. Lovely china and books could be found at British Perceptions, and so many more. If you enjoy shopping for Scottish things this is the place to be. All in all it was one of the best experiences we have had. Can't wait until next year!!



Karen Johnston Klein



Cathy & Scott Johnston



*Mark Davidson, Matt Hart, John Klein,
Tom Hart and Kevin Davidson*



*Dr. Warren Newswagner, Dr. & Mrs. David
Newswagner and their son.*



Jeff Kohlhepp and friend.



John Klein and his friend Kristin Baker



*Scott Klein & Alan Purves, Chief of the
Caledonian Club of San Francisco.*



*Captain Oliver W. Hamilton II, The
High Commissioner of Clan Hamilton.*



Estes Park Highland Games

It seems every report of the Estes Park Highland Games starts off with a weather report, so shall we dispense with that matter first again? For several days prior to the Games, the Weather Channel held all our attention ~ promising temperatures in the mid-50's in Estes Park for Friday, with a warming trend for Saturday and Sunday. We all packed accordingly, and were not misled by the weather folks. It was downright *cold* on Friday, probably around 45 degrees under the big tent where the individual clan tents are located. But with layers (and more layers) and jackets and gloves we all survived. Saturday was as promised ~ a bit warmer, but Sunday was a day that just feeds your soul. The bluest sky over the mountains, sunshine and the sound of bagpipes in the air. Sigh.

Attendance was down at the games this year, which sadly seems to be a trend due probably to the economy. Last year we had 80 sign in at the Johnston/e tent; this year there were about 40. But we still managed to sign up three new members at the games, with a likelihood of more joining later.



Patty Adler performing.

Two of our newest members actually were part of the entertainment at Estes, and they did the Clan proud. First, Patty Adler competed in the fiddle competition at the games ~ a delightful performance, and we were so proud of her up there wearing her Johnston tartan! Besides, she's lovely, charming and can *really* play the fiddle! And second, Doug Johnston headed up the exhibition of Raptors and Eagles for the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program. Absolutely fascinating, and we will be writing more about him for the next issue. I expect we will also be hearing more from Patty Adler in upcoming issues, as she has a wealth of information on a "Famous Johnston" she would like to share with CJA members.



Patty Adler

Our "Tent Guy," Vic Gibson, had to work on Friday so he enlisted ("conscripted?") the help of Brian Johnston Partridge to set up the tent on Friday. Brian is about "*this*" close to retiring, and we anticipate a much heavier involvement with the games in the future. Hey, Brian ~ once it's in print, it is etched in stone!

(Story continued on page 9.)



Brian Johnston Partridge and Doug Johnston at the CJA tent in Estes Park, CO, Set 6, 20008. Doug is the Raptor Guy.

Estes Park Games Continued.

As you may remember, last year in Estes, Clan Johnston/e and Clan Maxwell (having become close friends over the past few years), held a ceremony on the field to “Bury the hatchet/claymore” and put an end to the bloody feud that existed between the two clans for hundreds of years. Scores of clans and visitors gathered to watch the ceremony and take pictures. However, this year when we went to visit them at the tent space reserved for the Maxwells ~ it was empty. And it stayed that way through Friday and Saturday, with ourselves and other clans getting more and more concerned about what could have happened to them, since they had paid for the space well in advance. People kept stopping by to see if we had heard anything from them. It was a very graphic example of how Scots consider each other as “family.”

Vic had called on Friday and again on Saturday and finally got an answer on Sunday. All was well. Turns out when the motel owner called and asked if they were still going to use their rooms, and was told, “Yes. We will see



This little girl returned to our tent four times to look at the map. It shows even the wee bairns love to learn about Scotland.

you next week ...” everyone realized Shane Maxwell had gotten the dates mixed up! As friends, we aren’t *saying a word*, but the danger exists that Shane may be receiving calendar gifts for months to come ~ with the Estes Games boldly circled. And Clan Pollock has promised they will call him once a day during September next year to ensure he gets it right in 2009. The oddest thing was that other clans started sending Clan Maxwell visitors down to the **Johnston/e** tent for information. And, helpful folks that we are, we even took down some names and addresses to send to Shane.

All in all, it was a lovely weekend ~ and we filled our tummies with home-made shortbread baked by Victoria Johnstone and Mary Burton, and the always popular shortbread bites provided by Mary Edwards. We were a smaller group marching in the parade, and no special awards this year, but as former CJA VP-West, Larry Edwards pointed out, “Festivals are supposed to be *fun*.” And we certainly accomplished that!

Camp Rockahock, Williamsburg Festival

By Carol Boebel

We had a wonderful day at Camp Rockahock on October 4th as we celebrated our Johnston/ e heritage with lots of other Scots who gathered for the Williamsburg Festival.

The Day was perfect, not too warm, not too cool, lots of sun, music, athletes, dancers, clans folk, food and drink.

Don and I were delighted to see Steve arrive. This helped us tremendously. There were many visitors to talk to. One in particular could be our newest youngest member. He was a mere five weeks old and just a darling baby.

The location for the Festival was very good. Lots of space and folks seemed quite happy with the arrangements, as were we. The new president was also very enthusiastic, a good sign. It will be there again next year: October 3, 2009.



**Happy Holidays from
Clan Johnston/e in America!**

The St. Andrew's 45th Annual Colorado Festival

by Diane Coblentz

The Saint Andrews 45th Annual Colorado Scottish Festival was held August 9 and 10 at Highland Ranch, Colorado. In spite of the beautiful weather attendance was down. This was not a surprise considering the economy and gas prices.



Vic Gibson & Lady

Billye Telling, Vic Gibson and I hosted the clan tent, with help from Vic's border collie, Lady. She assumed the role of official CJA clan tent greeter, and was a big hit MOST of the time. Vic had her in the parade of clans as we marched onto the field, and let her have a bit too much of the leash so she could wander the sidelines and be petted. (Guess that tells you we weren't in the running for any awards this year). But, Lady somehow got tangled up in front of the dignitaries stand, and almost 'took out' the Color Guard. There was a lot of hilarity as Vic got things sorted out ~ and I tried to hide behind the Johnston/e banner. I am such a wuss! Maybe we SHOULD have won an award for comic relief. But, that is one of the best things about the Saint Andrews Games ~ they are very laid back, and people/family friendly.

Local CJA clan member. Jim Johnston did his usual excellent job as master of ceremonies for the Games. We Johnston's always enjoy hearing that Southern drawl come over the loudspeakers.



Kendal Norby & Cameron Hay

A quick update on the 'romance' of wee 3 year old Kendal Norby (Clan Johnston/e) and the dashing young Cameron Hay (Clan Hay). They met at the Highland Ranch Games last year, and you may recall seeing pictures of them in an issue of last years Spur and Phoenix. The saga continued as they spied each other at the Games this year, and made tentative plans to meet again at the Estes Park Games in Sept. Ah, young love! Could there be something to the old Celtic tradition of childhood betrothals?

A good time was had by all, as we enjoyed the color and pageantry associated with the Highland Games.



Happy Thanksgiving



Meaning of the CJA Logo

by Dee Lorilee Johnston

Information for this article was from <http://www.fleurdelis.com/meanings.htm>

Since many of us were not around during the founding of CJA, I do not know if the designer of the logo was using this or a similar guide or if there were other meanings attributed to the symbols. If there is more information on the history of the logo and its meaning, please send corrections to the editor. See the CJA brochure or website for color versions.

Crest

Spur or Spur Rowel - Preparedness for active service; pressing onward

Phoenix - Symbol of resurrection

Mantling

Acacia Branch or Leaves - Eternal and affectionate remembrance

Wreath

Blue = Truth and loyalty

Gold = Generosity & elevation of the mind

Classic Chief Shield

Top - Chief

Cushions - Authority (Gold on Red)

Gold = Generosity & elevation of the mind

Red background = Warrior or martyr; Military strength and magnanimity

Star (estoile or mullet) Celestial goodness; noble person

White = Peace & Sincerity

Flag or Pennant Refers to special action in which bearer was captured, or a reward for valiant service

American & Canadian Flags

Wheat Garb or Sheaf The harvest of one's hopes has been secured

Left - Dexter

Saltire - (St. Andrew's Cross) Resolution (Black on White)

White background = Peace and sincerity

Black cross = Constancy or grief

Right - Sinister

Blue background = Truth and loyalty

Bend/Bendy Scarf or shield suspender of a knight commander; signifies defense or protection (Gold)

Gold Bend = Generosity and elevation of the mind Crosses – Faith; Christianity; Service in the

Crusades- *Cross Crosslet Fitchee* A combination of cross and sword; unshakeable faith (White on

Blue) White = Peace and sincerity

Stag - (Also Reindeer) One who will not fight unless provoked; peace and harmony (White on Blue)

White = Peace and sincerity



COLORS *Even the colors can have special meaning in a "family crest" or coat of arms:*

Gold (Or) Generosity and elevation of the mind

Silver or White (Argent) Peace and sincerity

Red (Gules) Warrior or martyr; Military strength and magnanimity

Blue (Azure) Truth and loyalty

Green (Vert) Hope, joy, and loyalty in love

Black (Sable) Constancy or grief

Purple (Purpure) Royal majesty, sovereignty, and justice

Orange (Tawny or Tenne) Worthy ambition

Maroon (Sanguine or Murray) Patient in battle, and yet victorious



Canada Reports

by Carol Koeslag

The title of the old song “Wasn’t That A Party?” could well have been adopted as the theme song for the Fergus Games and CJA dinner and annual meeting BUT with the addition of the word water/rain/H2O/storm. Anyway it’s worded it *was* a party but a *very* wet one! It was so great that 17 the USA clan members drove/flew all the way to Fergus from Florida, N.Carolina, Vermont, New Hampshire, Delaware, Kansas, Illinois. It was grand that the Canadian members had a chance to meet and put faces to names they’d only read about in the S&P. I know that in the previous S&P I’d sounded rather upset that more Canadian members hadn’t registered prior to the Games *but* it was great to have Keith Johnston, Carman Johnston, Paul & Nikki Johnston, Joan & Don Diminie at the CJA tent and Jo Eller, who had made it all the way to Guelph when the terrible storm was wrecking its havoc, decided it was wiser to return home.!

The Friday night Tattoo was a very good introduction to the Games, the weather clear but cool. As the featured clan for the Games, President Steve, V.Pres.East Bart, Honorary President Arthur and spouses were royally entertained in the Sponsors tent during the Tattoo. Early Saturday morning the display was set up in the specially large tent we were allocated and then the rain began, off and on until 11 am when the skies opened. Quick conference with all clan leaders and decision was made to cancel the clan parade; then the decision to cancel the Opening ceremonies! What a terrible disappointment for everyone. The biggest disappointment, however, was for all the competitors – dancers, bands, heavies etc. which were completely rained out, not to mention the many vendors. All the time, effort and yes, money that had gone into the whole event! Oh my. By 2 pm as the skies got even blacker, and some funnel clouds were seen on the northern horizon, I decided it was time to close up the tent and never was a display dismantled so fast. All during the rain people had dropped by the tent and there was much greeting and meeting and visiting

among the CJA people. It would have been so great if the weather had been pleasant and then more visitors would have come by. So all the CJA folks attending the dinner and meeting, which were held in Guelph, headed back to try and dry out before re-grouping. A very pleasant time was enjoyed by the diners who also gave a brief resume of themselves which further enlarged knowledge of each other. Sunday morning, we headed back to Fergus, dropped by the clan tent were told no cars were allowed off the pavement as the mud was so deep. It was a sunny/cloudy morning as we then went to the Kirkin’ of the Tartan service. It was a wonderful service with President Steve reading one of the scripture lessons and great music and many tartans blessed. Back to the clan tent with a small display set up and visiting with CJA members and a few others. For all the years we’ve been a Fergus we’ve never had a Sunday tent display so it was interesting to see which of the other clans were there at that time. But once again the clouds rolled in and as the rain was fast approaching there was another fast take-down. After lots of hugs and best wishes, everyone said good-bye and sloshed their way to their cars.

And that, my friends, was the Fergus Games Water Fest!

As all the folks of Ontario know this has been the wettest summer for many, many years. The Highland Games were at the mercy of the weather and I understand Maxville Games were badly washed out, as were Cobourg and Uxbridge to name a few. All we can hope for is a better year in 2009 when Clan Johnston/e will be represented at the four above named games. Joan Johnston Diminie will be hosting the Cobourg tent and I think Paul and Nikki Johnston will do the Uxbridge tent. It was most interesting to meet that enthusiastic couple from Richmond Hill at the AGM and dinner.



Steve Johnston, Carol Boebel, Sally Epler, Margot & Arthur Johnston, Peter Koeslag, Scot Epler.

Introducing Joan Johnstone-Diminie

It's time for a CHANGE for Canadian members. Unfortunately, the decision was made too late for the information to be in the Fall S & P that membership payments and renewals will be sent to the new Member-At-Large in Canada, Joan Johnstone-Diminie. I'm so pleased that she is taking on that responsibility for CJA. So for future renewals and new memberships, the information and money will be sent directly to Joan.

Joan Johnstone-Diminie
160 Green St
Cobourg, Ont K9A 3W4
corktownner 1 @ sympatocp.ca

I asked Joan to send me some information about herself to share with other members and here is her letter.

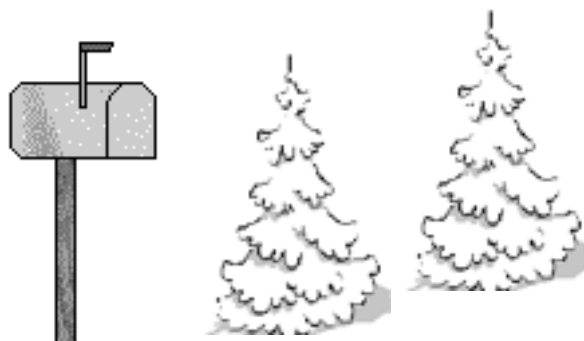
“Hello Everyone,

I wish to introduce myself, Joan Johnstone-Diminie, living in Cobourg, Ontario, one block from Lake Ontario in an area known as “Corktown”. I have been a member of Clan Johnston/e since approximately 1986 having been introduced to the Clan through Marilyn and Dean Johnston from Concordia, Kansas, with a copy of The Spur & Phoenix edition 1985. Thanks Marilyn and Dean. While I am familiar with Highland Games, it is usually on the band side. My husband Don, has been a piper since 1970 with one son quite competitive in side drumming. Two other sons were also involved in the past in side drumming which they have now put on hold. We also have a fourth son and a daughter.

On August 9th, Don and I registered for and attended the Fergus Highland Games visiting the Clan Johnston/e tent and meeting some of the clan including President Steve. We attended the AGM and banquet in Guelph which we enjoyed, especially meeting some of the other clan members and now are able to put faces to names.

I consider it a great honour having been nominated as a Member-At-Large in CJA and look forward to working with Canadian Membership under the guidance of Carol.”

(See a photo of Joan and her husband on page 3)



How To Pay Canadian Memberships

Please remember Canadians that the amount shown is in US dollars so the Canadians pay the *equivalent* to the US in Canadian dollars. When the Can \$ was at par last Spring it was great, but please be aware that it does fluctuate and consequently what appears to be \$20. Is actually probably closer to \$23. As outlined in the letter that Registrar Margo sent in Sept. to all members the costs for mailing and printing the S&P take up a fair amount of your membership dollars. For Canadians the postage costs are high, as they can't be sent bulk mail but first class. The same procedure with sending membership to Joan as it was with me —A cheque made out to her personally *not* Clan Johnston/e will be deposited in a special account, then when a number have been received she will send a money order to the Treasurer and the renewal forms to Margo. I have not wanted, nor does Joan, to go to the expense of opening a business account/trust account for CJA so that is why any money I received has gone into a special personal account used exclusively for CJA money and from which I send the US fund money order. Whenever a Canadian personal cheque is made out to CJA and sent to the Treasurer it costs CJA \$5. to cash. So that hopefully explains the membership procedure

From your Canadian Clan Members.





Clan Johnston/e in America 2008 Annual General Meeting



August 9, 2008, Holiday Inn, Guelph, Ontario

Welcome and Opening Remarks

President Steve Johnston, welcomed those in attendance to the AGM Dinner & called the meeting to order. He then recognized Carol Koeslag for her hard work arranging the meeting and dinner. Carol welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. She also encouraged the membership to visit the many Scottish games held throughout Canada if they had the chance. All present then briefly introduced themselves to the gathering.

Quorum Call

There were **23 members** present, including 7 Council members.

146 consenting Proxies were received as reported by Secretary Dennis Watts. New York State law requires 10% for a Quorum. 505 total members divided by 169 attending and proxies equals 33%, establishing the necessary quorum. One note was made to change “2007” to “2008” in the last sentence of the Secretary’s report.

Flowers of the Forest

President Steve requested a moment of silence. There were no Flowers of the Forest reported in the Spur & Phoenix since the last AGM, so no names were read. Steve then encouraged all to make sure Jackie Johnston, Newsletter Editor, is made aware of the passing of any members for listing in the S&P & also Margot Johnston, CJA Registrar, to take their name out of active membership.

Report of Nominations Committee & Election of Officers

Presented by President, Stephen Johnston - The Slate of Officers was previously approved by the Council for a two year (2008-2010) term.

Nominees are:

- Vice President, West - Lindsey Johnstone to continue
- Secretary – Cathy Postier to replace Dennis Watts
- Treasurer – Kathie Bailey to continue
- Archivist/Genealogist – Barbara Hockman to continue
- Registrar – Margot Johnston to continue
- National Membership Commissioner – Betty Watts to finish the term of Debra Johnston
- Member At Large – Joan Johnstone-Diminie to replace Joe Johnston

Thanks to Dennis, Debra and Joe for their years of service to CJA

A motion to elect Slate of Officers was made by Sally Johnston-Epler and seconded by Carol Boebel. The motion then passed unanimously.

Genealogy Report

Presented by Barbara Hockman – Many new members have sent in their information to be added to the database, and the DNA project is ongoing. She attended a convention in July of Professional Genealogists and learned, among other things, that the availability of online information is going to increase dramatically in the near future. To that end, she is working on a BLOG to make information on new websites and documents available to members as quickly as possible. If you have any specific questions, please send her an e-mail and she will do her best to answer them. Also, we need a new co-administrator of the DNA project, since one of the two co-administrators had to resign. Please contact President Steve if you would like to serve in this capacity.

Bylaws Committee Report

Presented by Arthur Johnston - The Bylaws Committee reviewed the existing Constitution and Bylaws documents and, for purposes of understanding and readability, agreed to combine them into one document called "Bylaws". This new document was approved by the Council and sent to membership with the agenda for the AGM. After this was done, Jim Johnston of Oak Harbor, WA reviewed the document and found a few spelling and grammatical errors, which will be corrected. One significant issue was found in Article 9 Section 5, and Article 20, Section 2 referring to the storage of CJA archives at Odom Genealogical Library, Moultrie, Georgia. Circumstances at the Odom Library have changed recently, and we may move our archives to another location. For that reason and to provide flexibility, it would be wise to change the Bylaws to not specify a storage location of the archives but leave the decision to the Council. A possible new location is St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, NC. We are waiting on terms & conditions from them. A motion was presented by Carol Boebel to remove all references from the Bylaws to a specific storage location for the archives, and change the wording to reflect that the Council will decide on a location. The motion was seconded by Sally Johnston-Epler and passed unanimously. A motion to accept the revised Bylaws, including grammatical changes and amendments, was made by Margot Johnston, seconded by Carol Koeslag and passed unanimously.

Publications Committee Report

Presented by Bart Johnston with thanks to Jackie Johnston & her daughter Dee for all their hard work. The report stated that the *Spur and Phoenix* (S&P) was published 4 times in the year and that the turnaround is quicker due to utilization of a check card for payment. The newsletters are also being posted on the website by Webmaster Will Johnstone. We did order 1000 new color brochures for display at the Clan tents and they will be available from National Membership Commissioner, Betty Watts. Carol Koeslag presented a motion to formally recognize Jackie's hard work writing and editing the S&P. The motion was seconded by Margot Johnston and passed unanimously.

Registrar's Report

Presented by Margot Johnston - CJA currently has 504 members of which, 155 are life members. Of that number, 27 are new members. We lost 78 members to non-payment of dues, and 4 as Flowers of the Forest. Margot also reminded us that spouses of Life members still need to pay their membership dues annually. She will be sure to send renewal envelopes to anyone in that situation. Expenses for office supplies, postage, etc. come to \$229.81 for the year with no further expenditures planned with the possible exception of a printer cartridge.

National Membership Commissioner's Report

Presented by Carol Koeslag - First, thanks to all tent sponsors for their hard work. The report includes all games from July 2007 to June 2008. Through 9 games, there were a total of 230 sign-ins, 9 new membership packets requested, and supplies sent to 16 tent sponsors. Carol added that she was unable to send her information to Debra Johnston in time for the AGM report but would get it to her for publication in the S&P.

Merchandise Report

Presented by Arthur Johnston - We are trying to hold purchases down because of increased shipping charges and high exchange rates. Total purchases for the year are \$564.00, most of which is jewelry & *The Gentle Johnston/es* books. Not all games can sell merchandise due to different tax laws. These games can display merchandise, but it must then be ordered. Total sales include part of the Stone Mountain 2007, but no other games. Most orders come through the mail and at Christmas. Kilt material to cut down on expense, will be ordered in 8 yard lengths as needed rather than carrying a large stock. Different lengths can still be purchased as needed, but we will not stock bulk material. The Lochwood Restoration Fund has a current balance of \$1,854.50

Scholarship Committee Report

This report appeared in the last S&P. There were 6 applicants who were awarded \$100.00 each. CJA Scholarships are given to both members and non-members. The fund continues to grow, and donations are always appreciated.

Financial Report and Budget

Presented by President, Stephen Johnston – We are solvent! Summary and detailed financial reports were provided. These reports run from 7/1/07 to 6/30/08. We will provide an updated report in the S&P for Fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 and will file the necessary forms with the New York Dept. of State Charities Bureau, the administrative agency designated in our Articles of Incorporation for the State of New York. Most activity this time of year is due to membership renewal & games expenses. The proposed 2008 budget was also distributed. It is similar to 2007 since both revenue & expenses have been relatively flat. One note is that merchandise sales will be pushed this year. A motion to adopt the 2008 budget was made, seconded and passed

New Business:

AGM 2009

The Council would like to hold the 2009 AGM at the New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain. A motion was made by Sally Johnston-Epler, seconded by Pat Johnston, and passed unanimously. President Steve also reminded everyone that hosts for AGMs and tent sponsors are always needed.

International Gathering of the Clans in Scotland

Presented by Arthur Johnston – Lord Annandale sent a letter to the Commissioners of all the CJA associations giving his input. He has decided for many reasons not to participate as a clan, however will leave it to each association to do as they see fit. If enough people are still interested, there is the possibility of a dinner at Raehills. More information will be made available in an upcoming S&P.

Website Update

Due to a change in web hosts, we had to change the URL for the CJA website. The new address is www.clanjohnstone.org (no slash). Special thanks to Webmaster Will Johnstone for all his hard work in restoring some lost files to our website, and in posting new and modified information on it.

Closing Remarks

President Steve thanked everyone for attending and reminded us that we are always looking to improve our organization. All ideas on how we can improve our membership numbers, member participation, merchandise, financing, information, publications, Scottish games/festivals participation etc., are most welcome. If anyone has suggestions regarding nominations for next year's officers, please contact him.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted, Catherine Postier, Secretary

Looking for that perfect gift for the person who has everything? Or for that hard to buy for family member?

Check out our merchandise pages for some great gifts. Beat the holiday rush and order early.



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 (Throws) 56"x 72" – 100% Wool Ribbed collar and cuffs – Annandale Johnston Modern Colors ONLY	\$89.00	\$10.00 each \$ 4.00 e.a.p.	CLAN CREST NECKTIES Navy Poly w/repeated Crest woven into Material – Annandale Only	\$21.00	\$ 3.50 each \$ 1.50 e.a.p.
TARTAN WOOL MATERIAL 100% Worsted Wool, 56" wide New Wool 12/13 ox. Ideal for Kilts SPECIFY a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$58.00	\$ 3.50 each per yard \$ 1.00 e.a.p.	TARTAN NECKTIES 100% Wool 4.8 oz or 10/11 oz a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$19.00	\$ 3.50 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
POLY / RAYON MATERIAL 60" Wide, Old Colors ONLY Light weight, small pattern and washable	\$12.50	\$ 3.50 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.	LADIES SASHES Worsted, 100% Wool, 4.8 oz. Tie Weight, 10"x88" w/2" fringe SPECIFY Modern or Old Colors	\$38.00	\$ 3.00 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
SILK TIES Regimental Stripe, Johnston colors Goes with either Old Colors or Modern Kilt. Classy with a suit too	\$45.00	\$ 4.00 each \$ 1.50 e.a.p.	6 PIECE TAMS Worsted Wool 4.8oz or 10/11oz Matches Sashes above & Scarves below SPECIFY Modern or Old Colors	\$31.00	\$ 3.00 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
HEAVY WEIGHT SCARVES Lambs Wool Scarf 12"x 82" While they last - Modern ONLY	\$19.00	\$ 3.50 each \$ 1.50 e.a.p.	SCARVES Worsted Wool 4.8oz Tie Weight SPECIFY: Modern or Old Colors	\$25.00	\$ 3.00 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
JEWELRY:					
CLAN CREST CAP BADGE or Ladies Brooch 1 5/8" dia. Rhodium plated Annandale ONLY!	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.	KEY FOBS Small Crest Badge mounted on Leather w/ring for keys	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each \$.75 e.a.p.
KILT PINS Small Crest Badge on Claymore Pins Rhodium plated / Annandale ONLY!	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each \$ 1.00 each	PENDANTS Small Crest Badge on 16" chain Rhodium plated / Annandale ONLY	\$21.00	\$ 2.50 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
LAPEL PINS Small Crest Badge For Men or Ladies, Rhodium plated Annandale ONLY!	\$19.00	\$ 2.50 each. \$ 1.00 e.a.p.	<i>For Caskieben Jewelry, contact the Johnstone at the number or address on the Order Form. There are no more Caskieben Crest Badges. Other items extremely limited.</i>		
FOR LIFE MEMBERS ONLY!					
MEDALLION ON RIBBON 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.	\$40.00	\$ 2.50 each	LADIES PENDANT	\$30.00	\$ 3.00 each
BOOKS:			HISTORY BOOKLET by Cascade Publishing Condensed from the The Great Historic Families of Scotland	\$ 9.00	\$ 2.50 each \$ 1.00 e.a.p.
THE "GENTLE" JOHNSTONS By Russell Honey A wealth of information and insight into all Johnstons And their history of migration from Scotland to Ireland and then to North America.	\$20.00	\$ 3.50 each			

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

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AND REMEMBER

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Youth Page

by Billye Tellingner

HALLOWE'EN ~ OCTOBER 31

By the time you get this edition of the *Spur and Phoenix*, Halloween may have passed, and it will be Christmas that everyone is looking forward to celebrating. Here in the USA, grownups like to celebrate Halloween almost as much as kids do. They just don't go out "Trick or Treating."

In Scotland, Hallowe'en was the night before the old church feast of All Saints' Day. In the even older Celtic Calendar before the Christian era, it was called "Samhuinn," or the Feast of the Dead. Samhuinn was one of the two great Celtic fire festivals (the other one was Beltane, or May Day).

Two thousand years ago people believed that dead spirits came back to haunt the living during the Feast of the Dead. So they lit lanterns to guide the spirits back to the spirit world. They used scooped-out turnips, carved with spooky, skull-like faces to frighten away evil spirits. We do something like that today, don't we? We carve *pumpkins* and put candles in them.



What about the costumes we wear now? Well, back then, they were called, "guisers" ~ and they were people who **disguised** themselves so that the spirits of the dead would not recognize them. If the dead spirits recognized them they would be stuck halfway between the world of the living and the dead! Yikes!

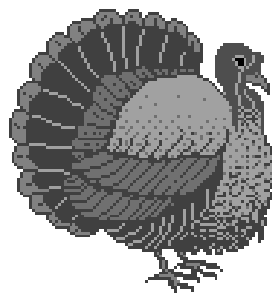
Why witches? Well, traditionally, witches were no more than bad fairies. So they too were very active at this time, like all the other spirits and faryfolk. They were said to fly through the air on their broomsticks or gallop over the lonely moors on their black horses.

As for "Trick or Treating", this also goes back to the spirit world. The spirits could be good to you, if you treated them well and with respect, or cause all sorts of trouble if you offended them, even if you didn't mean to upset them.

*Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marchin
We are the guisers at the door.
If ye dinnae let us in
We will bash your windows in,
And ye'll never see the guisers any more.*



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



Clan Johnston/e In America

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\$ 10.00 Spouse of a
life member.



Canadians: Please contact Joan Diminie about dues information. See page 2 for contact information.

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