



The
Spur and Phoenix

Fall 2009



Chief: The Right Honourable Earl of Annandale and Hartfell

Clan Johnston/e in America

Attending The Gathering 2009 in Scotland

by Victoria Johnston



It just so happens that by sheer luck, I was in Edinburgh during "The Gathering 2009".

Yes, Highland Games in Edinburgh! I saw the parade of clans on Saturday evening - UP the Royal Mile. No longer shall I complain about marching DOWN the center of Estes Park to start the day.

I attended the games with a friend on Sunday. We saw a fabulous band - no idea if they could be convinced to attend Estes - but *The Red Hot Chili Pipers* put on quite a show!

Sadly, there was no Clan Johnston tent in the Clan Village. But they were present in the parade...only just. I think the Colorado Johnstons can be very proud as we put on a better show year after year than what was managed at an event billed as the largest gathering in over two hundred years.

I wish I could have stayed in Edinburgh longer. I didn't get to anywhere else in Scotland this time around as I came down with a horrible cold and have had a case of laryngitis for nearly a full week. That being the case, I thought it best to return to my friends house in the south of England to recover. Heaven knows that whilst in Edinburgh, I wasn't going to sit inside all day resting!

(Thank you to Diane Coblentz for forwarding this report from Victoria.)

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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.

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Fall 2009

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Visit us at

www.clanjohnstone.org

Send information and events notices to Will Johnstone at wjohnstone@earthlink.net

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

October 17, 2009

President's Letter *by Stephen Johnston*

As we approach this year's annual general meeting (Loon Mountain, September 18-20), I am overwhelmed by CJA memories and recent initiatives, and by the importance of our heritage in our family life. There are several contributing factors to this warm and fuzzy feeling.

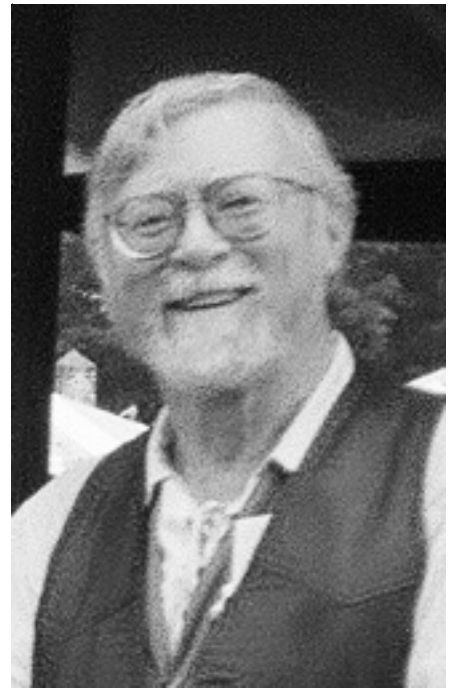
In July, Pat and I, together with various members of our family (Amy, Wendy, and Eric) at various times, spent three consecutive weeks away from home. The first week, Pat and Amy directed the School for Scottish Arts in the mountains of Western NC – we had a large turnout of wonderful highland dancers from around the US and Canada. This was followed by the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, where Pat directed the highland dance competition and I sponsored our clan tent. From there, we traveled to Nashville, TN for the U.S. Inter-Regional highland dance championships (Pat and Amy are both officers in the national organization for highland dance, the Federation of U.S. Teachers and Adjudicators).

During this period, I reflected on the past, present, and future of Clan Johnston/e. I re-read the lead article in the last issue of the *Spur and Phoenix*, which was on Raehills Manor in Scotland, and was reminded of the wonderful hospitality and humor of Lord Annandale and son David, Lord Johnstone, when we visited in the summer of 2006. I also renewed my desire for our youth to become more involved in Scottish activities, and particularly in CJA. One initiative to reach out to our youth, which was suggested by our CJA Scholarship Chairman, Dr. Jim Johnston of Oak Harbor, WA, is to begin publishing articles in the *Spur and Phoenix* on Scottish arts. This series will include articles on Scottish fiddling, highland dancing, Scottish country dancing, and more. If you would like to contribute to this series, please do so by notifying our editor, Jackie Johnston.

I also invite you to participate in other CJA initiatives, some of which are upcoming or relatively recent. For example, Lee Johnson reports that our DNA project is going great, Jackie and our Publications Committee are rolling out an opportunity for our members and other recipients of the *Spur and Phoenix* to receive their issues electronically rather than in hard copy, and Arthur Johnston is expanding our merchandise offerings as you will note in this issue (order now – they make great Christmas presents!). Thanks to all of these CJA leaders for their efforts, and I hope you choose to participate.

Beyond these initiatives, I hope you will volunteer for a CJA leadership role as tent sponsor at games, state commissioner, or a council member. Please contact me if you're interested, and I'll share our openings with you. Also, I hope you participate in your local Scottish organizations, and in Scottish arts, genealogy, and in teaching, writing, and other forms of scholarship in Scottish traditions and heritage (especially our own). Help us make CJA and the names Johnson, Johnston, and Johnstone well known – and respected – at the local, regional, national, and international levels.

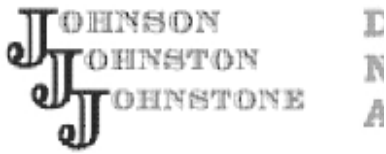
Hope to see you at Loon Mountain!



Cead Mìle Fáilte

A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members.

Kent Walker	Pacifica, CA
James G. Johnston, Jr.	Birmingham, AL
Lt. Donald J. Dryer	82 nd Airborne - U.S. Army
M/M Andrew Lingler	Elyria, OH
George C. Johnson, Jr	Jeffersonville, NC
Mrs Ethel May Arthur	Cary, NC
M/M Robert W. Arthur	Columbus, OH
Gail Johnston	St. Charles, MO



JJJ DNA Surname Project News

by Lee Johnson

The J/J/J DNA Project has had much success in the 2nd quarter of the year. With the help of Family Tree DNA running great sales promotions over the last 3 months, we have added well over 40 new members to the Project. This puts our current membership at 650 members, with 633 kits being returned. In addition over 50 members are upgrading their current DNA results to additional markers!!

We currently have members from the countries of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, UK, and the USA, and we have been working hard in the past month to bring the J/J/J DNA Surname Project to a more global level for their participation. I have been in contact with the Clan Johnstone of New Zealand, and they have unanimously agreed that we should work together. There have also been communications sent to other countries and organizations, which we hope will join us in our efforts. It is our hope that by involving more people from abroad our joint efforts will benefit their organization's members as well as our own.

The Family Group's section has one new Family Group, Pecan, which brings our Family Groups to 21 within our Project. A Family Group consists of two or more members who match at the 37-marker level. These Family Groups work together to link their researched lineage records to connect, to share, and to further their research efforts. We provide each group with a web page where they can post their information and findings. The Project has many more groups within it that match, but they have yet to elect to form a Family Group within the Project.

The Project's Library is an ever-growing section. The files for the counties of States that the compilers have volunteered for are being updated about every two weeks. We are receiving information for States, for which we still do not have volunteer compilers. We would like to ask for more folks to volunteer for this section, so that we can begin to upload these research efforts to these States. This is a fairly easy opportunity for involvement with the Project, and Tony will work with anyone who wishes to give it a try. By the way,

you do not have to be from the State for which you volunteer.

We are happy to announce that we are currently in the process of adding two new sections to our Library. Very soon we will be adding a section for New Zealand and Australia. Our Librarian for these two countries is Keith Johnson of New Zealand. We are very happy to have him become the latest member of the J/J/J team!!

Our Veteran's section now has had several sections completed and uploaded to the J/J/J Site. A list of the conflicts that are now represented on the site are as follows:

1. English Civil War
2. Seven Years War
3. Revolutionary War
4. Mexican-American War
5. U.S. Civil War
1. Spanish-American War

We are hoping to be able to expand this section soon to include more countries and conflicts.

With all of the new memberships coming in, Barbara continues to be very busy with the flow of Pedigrees that folks are turning in, and we thank her for her efforts!!

We would like everyone to be aware that we have a "Brochure" for the Johnson/Johnston/Johnstone DNA Surname Project available for download from our site. The brochure can be viewed and printed from our "News" page. Sometime in the future we hope to move it to a more prominent and permanent place on the web site.

Regards,
Your J/J/J team,

Lee Johnson, Co-Administrator
Sherrie Boone, Co-Administrator
Barbara Hockman, Pedigree Coordinator
Euell Johnson, Research Analyst
Tony Johnson, Librarian-USA
Keith Johnson, Librarian-NZ, Australia



Famous Johnstons-William James Johnston, MOH

by Bart Johnston

Pfc. James Johnston epitomized the strengths and values of the Greatest Generation. For sheer bravery, unit loyalty, self-sacrifice, and a fierce warrior's heart, Jimmy's story is one for Valhalla. He was born 1918, in New Jersey, the son of John Johnston from Port Logan, Scotland and Mary Watson from England. Mary died a few years later, leaving four boys and one daughter. Life was hard growing up without a mother during the depression but the children learned about work and doing without. When WWII started, Jimmy and his brothers all joined the military.

After infantry training as a machine gunner, Johnston was sent to the 45th Infantry Division as a replacement. The 45th was a battle-hardened veteran regiment which had defeated the Germans and Italians in North Africa and Sicily and was fighting near Salerno, Italy when he joined it in September 1943. Composed originally of Oklahoma National Guard troops, it was called by General Patton one of the best divisions in the history of American arms, and German Field Marshall von Kesselring wrote that it was one of the two best divisions his men faced.

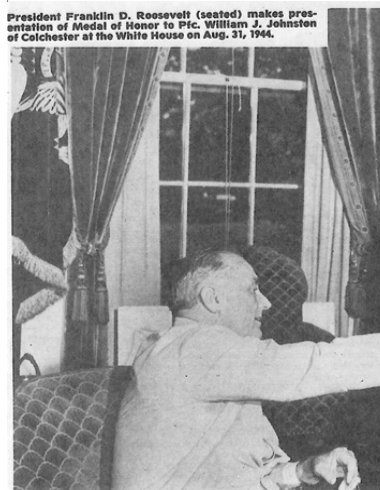
In January 1944 the 45th was withdrawn and made its fourth amphibious assault at Anzio, Italy, fighting its way into the mountains. In February, von Kesselring hurled 120,000 men with tanks to push the Americans back into the sea. The 45th Division was subjected to wave after wave of Nazi infantry and armor. The Yanks fought with bayonets and grenades as they hung onto their precarious perch in the mountains. Johnston's machine gun was attacked by 80 Germans and he hit 25. Later he killed two at such close quarters that he couldn't depress his gun enough so he used a rifle and a pistol in close combat. Johnston's Company G fought so gallantly, in spite of 75% casualties, that they were cited by the President.

The next day Johnston volunteered to cover the withdrawal of his company. When volunteered a second time for their next withdrawal, he was hit by a shell fragment. A medic pronounced that nothing could be done for Jimmy and he would soon die. But this tough son of the Borders had more fighting to do. It isn't known whether Jimmy had ever heard the Johnston battle cry, "Aye Ready" but his actions proved he had the heart of those hard-riding clansmen. By now his company was completely surrounded and the captain ordered yet another withdrawal. Johnston, who suffered from massive chest trauma and blood loss, volunteered yet again to cover the retreat. As the men fled toward the rear, they heard him hammering away for ten minutes and then there was silence. He had been overrun and reported killed in action.

The Germans who captured Pvt. Johnston found him covered in blood; having no medic, they too assumed he would soon die. They carried him to an abandoned farmhouse, where they took his boots and socks. When they left, Jimmy started a long crawl back to American lines. He was eventually picked up and taken to a triage unit where once again he was given little chance. He wouldn't let medics evacuate him before he had reported to his colonel on German positions he learned while in the farmhouse. This courageous report resulted in countless American lives saved in the counter-attack. When he finally had surgery, they removed half of his lung. The colonel recommended Johnston for the Medal of Honor, which he received from President Roosevelt in August, 1944.

After returning to Connecticut at war's end, he received a belated high-school diploma from his principal who said; "Jimmy, you didn't graduate because you didn't complete History; instead you made it." He had a long career as a manager with the Veterans Administration helping vets who needed an advocate. He was most proud of the fact that when he really needed a favor for a vet, he could fall back on his Medal of Honor and that would always open doors. After all, who wanted to say "No" to an original American hero? In 1990, the William J. Johnston Middle School was dedicated and in 2007, seventeen years after Jimmy's death, a highway was named in his honor in his hometown of Colchester, CT.

Thanks are due to Dorothy Johnston O'Meara, Jimmy's daughter, and LTC Jesse McIntyre, USA, for their assistance in the preparation of this article.



Appointments of Chief Commissioner and Regional Commissioners To Lord Annandale in North America

In May of 2009, Lord Annandale has re-appointed Arthur Johnston as his Chief Commissioner in North America, along with Regional Commissioners listed below with contact information. These appointments are for a three year term and will end in May of 2012.

This is not to confuse the Regional Commissioners with the State Commissioners for CJA, which are appointed by the Council of CJA. The Chief Commissioner and his Regional Commissioners are liaisons to Lord Annandale to the U.S. and Canada and represent, in his absence, Lord Annandale, Chief of the Arms and Name of all Johnston/es (Clan Johnstone).

The Chief and Regional Commissioners also gives direct support to and serves the association of Clan Johnstone/e in America. All Commissioners are members of CJA and some serve on the Council.

The Chief and Regional Commissioner system was set up by Lord Annandale in May of 2000 with the passing of William H. Johnston, the founder of Clan Johnstone/e in America, and then Lieutenant to the Chief, Lord Annandale.

If you or someone you know has a question in reference to Clan Johnstone/e as a whole, please contact the Regional Commissioner in your area. We will do our best to answer any and all question or concerns.

If you or someone you know is planning a visit to Scotland and would like to meet Lord Annandale or visit Raehills, please contact Arthur Johnston, Chief Commissioner, and he will be able to help you with the contact information.

Chief Commissioner North America

Arthur W. Johnston, FSA Scot
P.O. Box 71
Goffstown, NH 03045-0071

Our apologies to Lord Annandale for the errors in the report on the Chiefs of Johnstone, printed in the Summer issue of the Spur & Phoenix. We are expecting corrections from Lord Annandale and Arthur Johnston. We will print the corrections as soon as we receive them. Your Editor: Jackie Johnston

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Stay At Raehills

Do you have an anniversary or other special occasion coming up in the near future? If so, then, why not treat yourself and your loved ones to the first-rate hospitality you know you will received at Raehills, seat of our Clan Chief and home to the Earl's ancestors since 1780.

Ever mindful of the need to keep the "Big House" and the estate lands in good order for the benefit of future generations of Johnstones and the prestige of our illustrious Clan, Lord and Lady Johnstone are keen to welcome paying guests both in their home itself and in the refurbished self-catering cottages within the gardens at Raehills.

As Lady Penny points out: "Staying at Raehills is all about getting away from it all and immersing yourself in another world. It's about being looked after and also enjoying some of the finest hospitality on offer."

Facilities available for guests at Raehills.....

**Guests are invited to stay in parties of 6 or more for Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.
(Raehills sleeps 18!)**

During their stay, guests are able to enjoy

- Afternoon tea and/or welcome drinks on arrival
- 9 luxurious bedrooms with private bathrooms
- Full access to a self service bar
- A five course dinner produced by chefs with 2 AA Rosettes and a 4 in the Good Food Guide
- Aperitifs and nightcaps in the grand old drawing room
- Access to the magnificent grounds and gardens of Raehills

Guests are made to feel at home at Raehills, moving freely around the house, enjoying the warmth of log fires, perhaps picking out a book, reading the papers, playing billiards or even delving into some of the Earl's ancestral history.....

For those interested in a sporting break, there are good facilities for shooting, deer stalking, and fishing. Prospective guests are advised to visit the official website at www.raehills.com for details.

And don't forget, the annual Galloway Country Fair is held on the Estate each August

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Photo by James K. Johnston

Larry Edwards Knighted in Recent Ceremony



H. E. Chevalier Larry Edwards, K.S.G. and
Lady Mary Edwards

His Excellency Chevalier Larry Edwards, Ph.D., FSAScot., KSG was knighted on Sunday, April 26, 2009, in the Imperial Constantinian Military Order of Saint George, in a Holy and ancient ceremony held at St. Bartholomew's Church in Estes Park, Colorado.

The Order of Saint George is an order of Christian Knighthood which traces its roots to the Emperor Constantine in the 4th Century AD and what has been recognized as the first Christian Order of Chivalry. The Order today, headquartered near York, England, is recognized throughout Great Britain, France, Portugal, regions of Africa, and the United States as a philanthropic, benevolent and humanitarian fraternity. The Grand Priory for the Mountains and Plains ICMOSG consists of 43 members.

Chevalier Edwards was honored with Knighthood, as were the six other Knights, Dames and Companions inducted on Sunday, for his continuing service to the Longs Peak Scottish / Irish Highland Festival, a not-for-profit charitable corporation. For the past several years Edwards has overseen a group of volunteers which records the events of the Festival with still photography for documentary purposes. His group of volunteers has grown to no less than six for the coming year. Throughout the 4 days of the Festival these photographers record every aspect of the Festival's more than 30 events, amassing more than 5000 photos which are classified, placed

in the archives, and made available to the participants and public through Internet web sites.

Previously Dr. Edwards served for a number of years as Vice President of Clan Johnston/e in America, Co-chair of the 2000 CJA Annual General Meeting held in Estes, and Co-Chair of the CJA Committee for the Investigation and Preservation of Lochwood Tower, historic seat of the Chiefs of Clan Johnston, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, UK. Before his retirement as manager of the Western Division, AERO-METRIC, Inc. he led the efforts to produce high resolution, high accuracy surveys, aerial photography and engineering mapping of the Lochwood Tower site and surroundings. He also coordinated the efforts with the Glasgow University Archaeologic Research Division (GUARD) to write a proposal for a 3-phase professional archaeologic study of Lochwood Tower and its environs.

Edwards and his wife Mary Lee (Bonham) Edwards Live in Fort Collins, Colorado. The Edwards have three adult children, Richard of Rock Springs, Wyoming, Alice DeBoer of Omaha, Nebraska, and David of Peoria, Illinois. They also have 5 grandchildren.

Submitted by Billye Tellingier



Big News!

You can now get your Spur & Phoenix by email!

We have had a number of requests from members to receive our newsletter by email, so we are offering our members a choice starting with the Winter 2009 issue.

Here are some reasons to get the newsletter via email instead of by mail so please consider these when deciding which method you prefer.

1. The email version will be in color!
2. You can access your newsletter even when you are away from home as long as you can access your email!
3. It is more environmentally friendly as it uses less paper!



If you would like to receive your Spur and Phoenix via email, please email our Registrar, Margot Johnston, at lucknbooth@aol.com and tell her to add you to the list and to verify she has your current email address. If you choose this option, please be sure to keep our Registrar up to date on any changes in your email address. This is very important as we don't want you to miss any issues.

We will keep your email addresses private. The only name and address on the email that you will see will be yours. We will use a .pdf format to save space and make it easier for people with dial up.

If you prefer to get your newsletter printed and mailed, you don't have to do anything. Your name will stay on the mailing list.

If you have any questions, please contact me at jackiejohnston@mchsi.com or Margot. If we get enough people who would like to use the email option, we will use it for our Winter issue so be sure to get your email address to Margot before the next deadline date of **October 17th**.

Jackie Johnston
Newsletter Editor and Publications Committee Chair

Website Update

by Will Johnstone

Several pages on the Clan Johnston/e in America website have been updated including News, which has been modified to include information about several Scottish societies and web sites until we get enough to create a dedicated page. The CJA merchandise PDF has been updated with new prices and removal of some items. The commissioners page has had the appointment date and term start updated. The events page has had several modifications. And the tower project page has had the commercial model removed as it is no longer available.

I would like members to keep me updated on events and organizations. Please be detailed in your reports as I am just the tech person and don't have the time to research items sent in.

<http://www.clanjohnstone.org/johnstone.news.archive.html>

<http://www.clanjohnstone.org/clanjohnston.commissioners.html>

<http://www.clanjohnstone.org/scottish.highland.games.html>

<http://www.clanjohnstone.org/restore1.html>

<http://www.clanjohnstone.org/pdf/cjamerch.pdf>



Canada Reports

By Carol Koeslag

I'm writing the first part of this Report the last day of June and the later in July. On June 27th two Highland Games were held with Clan Johnston represented at both! For over 30 years there have been Highland Games held in Cobourg, Ontario, (40 miles south of Peterborough) and though there was some question of holding it for this year the committee went ahead with their plans. CJA is fortunate in having members spread around Ontario and so Joan Johnston Diminie and husband Don of Cobourg, hosted a CJA tent at the Games. (Joan emphasized that it could not have been done without Don's assistance!) It was a beautiful, hot sunny day and six clan tents were set up under wonderful shade trees. Joan was kept busy visiting with the 32 people who signed the register. One "Gentle" Johnston book was sold and other CJA information handed out. The Games were opened with the Canadian and USA national anthems and Flowers of the Forest (Scotland) being sung plus the usual welcoming opening speeches. Evidently Clan Nesbitt had a huge tent, a large contingent from the USA as it was holding its annual meeting in Peterborough. Don was able to arrange for a piper for the Nesbitts to play at their dinner. So it was a 'clans helping clans' function, for sure.

The second Games were held at Lindsay Ont. a short half hour west of Peterborough. It was Lindsay's first Games and a lot of planning had gone in to it. It was unfortunate, however, that both these Games, which really weren't that far apart, were held the same date. In any case Peter and I hosted the CJA tent at Lindsay and it was in a great venue. It was at the Lindsay Fair Grounds and the clan tents, food providers, vendors plus other entertainment were all held in the new huge exhibition building with lots of cross ventilation. Every Games is different and this set-up also was. Each clan had a 9'sq. area with 3' high curtain barriers, which meant we could see each other but also had our own space. There were 6 clans represented and we had a march-on past the Reviewing stand in front of the grandstand but interestingly though each clan was

acknowledged there were no speeches or the usual Opening ceremonies. Perhaps they were held later in the day or even on Sunday. We were happy to be present and interesting to watch and talk with visitors, a lot of whom were experiencing their first time at the Games. Sixteen signed the register and Gentle Johnston and Johnston History books were sold plus membership apps and info handed out to quite a few folks. The Lindsay committee had also invited the clans to stay overnight at its expense as they wanted us to stay for the Sunday events as well! Due to other family happenings we had to leave about 4 pm. We will return next year, all being well!



Don & Joan Diminie

On Sunday we took the 'tent' box to Joan's for Paul Johnston to pick up as he and Nikki are hosting the CJA tent at the North Durham Games in Uxbridge July 25th. Their offer is great as it means once again CJA will be represented there. Although I used to travel over to Uxbridge for a few years I haven't been able to do so for the past three.

Unfortunately, the write-ups of Maxville and Fergus Games will have to be done for the next edition as they are held after the S&P submission deadline. Joe Johnston of Ottawa, assures me he will be at Maxville and I already have the passes for Fergus.

I recently had an interesting phone visit with Archibald Johnstone who lives in PEI. He phoned to chat and tell me of his recent trip to Raehills and visit with David (Lord Annandale) and Patrick (Clan Chief) and their families. He greatly enjoys these visits and as he said "feels almost a family member". Archibald had written of his 2007 trip to Raehills and it was printed in the S&P Winter 2007 issue.

Another interesting letter and then phone visit with a Mr Johnston from Utah who had seen my name as Canadian representative on the Clan web site and, because his Johnston family came from Cape Breton, contacted me. I do hope he followed up with a membership application as he was very interested in hearing about our clan genealogist.

I talked with Paul Johnston about his first experience hosting a tent at the North Durham Games in Uxbridge. He'd explained that he hadn't been at Games before let alone host one so was rather uncertain just how it would all go. In true Johnston style he did a stellar job, I'm sure from what he reported. He felt it was a wonderful setting; representatives of the 14 different clans hosting tents told him the attendance was down from previous years but as all day rain had been forecast that was cited as a reason. Paul sounded rather disappointed that only 6 signed the tent register but he provided lots of membership information to those. The rain held off till late afternoon after the clan march. I guess the true success of a clan hosting is if the reps doing it would do it again. Paul assured me he and Nikki would be willing to represent Clan Johnston again next year. Many thanks, Paul!

I want to let all you CJA members know how much I have enjoyed keeping in touch with you either as membership person or writing these reports. After Russell Honey felt he could no longer write his wonderful letters to the Canadian members we felt it was important that there still be some 'Canadian' input to the members and so the CJA Council approved having the Canada Report as the Spur and Phoenix 'centrefold'. I do hope it has provided some new or different information and ideas as well as being a unifying link. My sincere thanks to Jackie who, as editor, has had to adjust and/or put up with my earlier submissions and more recently e-mail through the kindness of others' e-mail access. After 10 years I think it's time to end this chapter of my life.

Best wishes to you all.
Carol

Thank You Carol for your many years of reports on Canada. We have enjoyed them.



Nikki & Paul Johnston hosted the clan tent at the North Durham Highland Games in Uxbridge, Ont. in early July.



Interesting Attendance Numbers about the Gathering in Scotland vs Estes Park, Colorado.

By Diane Coblentz

ESTES PARK:

[http://coloradosprings.yourhub.com/Briargate/Events/General/](http://coloradosprings.yourhub.com/Briargate/Events/General/Event~641216.aspx)

[Event~641216.aspx](http://coloradosprings.yourhub.com/Briargate/Events/General/Event~641216.aspx)

80,000+ attendees

40,000 parade spectators

vs.

EDINBURGH:

<http://www.clangathering.org/>

47,000+ attendees

20,000 parade spectators

WIND, RAIN, SUN, MUD, COLLAPSED TENT

A.K.A.

Illinois Saint Andrew Society's Scottish Festival, Oakbrook, Illinois

June 19 and 20, 2009

By Margaret and Harry Teiwes

The day of the festival began with such winds and rain that Wheaton activated its tornado warning sirens throughout the city. When the sun finally broke through, we went to the festival but only to erect the tent, hang the banners, and arrange table and chairs. This was a wise decision. Later that day, another violent storm with 85 mph winds ripped through the festival grounds causing much damage which included our new E-Z UP tent. It was destroyed, removed and hauled away to the Tent Graveyard where it joined piles of twisted and bent metal bars. Clan Ross came to our rescue by GIVING us an extra tent which they had. Quoting Meg Ross, "We Scots stick together".

Saturday arrived sunny, hot and humid. But what a day! Several people stopped by and chatted. It was curiosity that brought them in. Curious to know what the banner proclaiming Border Reivers meant and curious about the large 16th century Border Reivers map. Who and what were the Reivers? Of all the items on display, it was the map that did it.

A young couple, with a child in a stroller, stopped by to chat. The little guy was wearing a shirt that had his name printed on the front, and the name was Reiver. His parents know the meaning of the word, and that's why he was named Reiver! And when he was baptized, his left hand was covered- the Unblessed Hand.

Another interesting person was Malcom Sinclair, the Lord Berriedale, Earl of Caithness and Chief of Clan Sinclair. He and his entourage visited and thanked us for participating in the festival. Marge had never shaken the hand of an Earl before and probably never will again.

Once more family members, Cindy and Samuel Bolds, walked with us in the Parade of Tartans. And again, David Johnston was the emcee, and as Clan Johnston/e passed the reviewing stand he announced that this was his clan. The James Johnstons of St. Charles and the Ben Spencers of Chicago cheered us on. Thanks, fellow CJA members for the support. And thanks to Clan Ross for your generosity.

We departed so hot and tired but had a great time.



Samuel Bolds with his dagger and sword.



Cindy Bolds, Marge & Harry Teiwes.

CJA Members Support Scottish Arts



Scottish American Military Society award winners in the Harp Competition, David Vavreck of Minneapolis and Kathryn Elmer of Duluth with Commanding Officer of Minnesota Post 1858 Robbie Bryant. Robbie and his wife are members of Clan Johnston/e in America.



Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games

Micah Johnston with some award winning Scottish Dancers at the Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games. Micah was one of the award sponsors for the dance competition. Clans in Minnesota compete for being able to sponsor the awards for the Fair. Micah is the CJA State Commissioner and sponsored the awards in behalf of Clan Johnston/e in America.



Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

By Stephen Johnston

The Grandfather Mountain Highland Games near Linville, NC are always special, and this year's 54th games, which were held July 9-12, were no exception. [Our family has attended each year since 1974, except for two years we were away in Scotland, so we have a good baseline for comparison.] Music, dancing, athletic events, sheep herding, etc., etc, are continuous and overlapping, and are deployed all around MacRae Meadows. To some it is like a marathon — there's even a mountain marathon, 24 miles uphill from the town of Boone, NC. I've often described these Games as a "Scottish Woodstock", where people show up in all stages of dress and undress.



The Games extend for 3 ½ days, beginning Thursday afternoon and concluding late Sunday afternoon. This year the weather was a little on the warm side of invigorating, and included a heavy fog on Thursday evening and a couple of bursts of Scottish mist on Saturday. There were approximately 150 clan tents, and the economy didn't seem to put a dent in the attendance.

Back row from left to right is as follows: Jim Johnston, Ellis Aycock, EJ Johnston, Nick Johnston, Dr. James Johnston, Beth Johnston, Steve Johnston. Front row is as follows: Lucy J. Tabor and son, Anne Johnston (Jim's husband) and their children.

As always, these Games are like a family reunion of long time Johnston friends, including Beth Johnston (daughter of Otis Johnston, one of our first Vice Presidents), Hugh "Hoopie" Moore and wife Kathleen (Hoopie is the son of our long time former Secretary, Carolyn J. Moore), sisters Sarah Bailey and Becky B. Moore (whose father Bill Bailey served as the second President of CJA), David Johnston (our regular tent sponsor), and Dr. James Johnston (our former tent sponsor) and family. Many visitors came by (4 full pages of families signed in), and we were particularly pleased to welcome CJA members Nick and wife EJ, who came all the way from Minnesota. Nick, Beth, Hoopie, Buz Johnson, and Ellis Aycock and wife Barbara all helped host the CJA tent at some period during the Games. Roger Ward of FL represented CJA at the Calling of the Spirit of the Clans, a torchlight ceremony on Thursday evening. Thanks to all who helped out!

We were fortunate in signing up two new members (both from Clan Arthur!), and six members renewed their membership. We were visited not only by Johnstons, Johnstons, and Johnstones, but also by current or past Presidents of Clan Maxwell (no, this is not a misprint – Larry Long is an old friend, and is currently writing a history of the Maxwell's in Scotland which I'm sure will be a masterpiece), Clan Arthur (formerly MacArthur), Clan MacNeil (who tends to eat whatever food we have out, especially peanuts), and Clan Hamilton (who, and his tent sponsor, were dressed so casually on Friday that we dubbed the clan "Clan McComfort"). We were bordered by Clans Ferguson and Elliott, which was a most fortuitous circumstance – the Elliotts kept us fed, and the Fergusons kept us watered.

We were particularly pleased to see some of our 3rd generation members in attendance. Some participate in the youth athletic events, and all seem to have a great time. We hope that all will move into leadership positions in CJA in years to come.

Consider attending the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games next year, Thursday, July 8 through Sunday, July 11. Visit their website at www.gmhg.org, and secure lodging well in advance via www.highcountryhost.com. We look forward to seeing you there!

Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina.



Nick and Beth Johnston in the lead with the banner, Steve Johnston carrying the tartan flag, and Ellis and Barbara Aycock bringing up the rear.



Stephen and Charles Nickell (Nick) Johnston Jr.

Photos by Nick and E.J. Johnston who visited Grandfather Mountain for the first time. Nick and E.J. are from St. Cloud, MN.

Parade of Tartans

The tartan flag bearer from each clan stays on the field after the parade of tartans, stands in formation in the center of the field for an interminable period of time during music, speeches, etc., then marches in formation around the field before exiting it.



Stephen Johnston, front right.



Book Review

By Arthur & Margot Johnston

The Unblessed Hand by Cecil Johnson — A Historic Novel

16th Century Scotland was a time of turmoil everywhere, even more so along the Marches in Southern Scotland and Northern England. It was a time when the Johnstones and Maxwells were vying for Wardenship of the West March and it didn't take much to conjure up another bloody feud. All the time, King James VI was playing an intricate game of chess with the Border Clan's Chiefs.

You will spend time with four young men who are under the leadership and clan rule, of the Chief of Johnstones, who was then, Sir James Johnstone. If you never heard of "The Unblessed Hand", you will find out what it means in this book. You will get insight on how the clan system worked in those days and what was expected of those under the "care" of their Chief. You also learn a little of the politics of the time and what lead up to the Battle of Dryfe Sands.

Cecil Johnson is a retired Headmaster and Secondary School Teacher, now living on his farm in County Durham, England. Cecil is the U.K. Commissioner to our Clan Chief, Lord Annandale.

The book is available through Clan Johnston/e in America for \$19.95 plus \$3.50 shipping. Follow instructions in the Merchandise List.



The Perfect Gifts!

By Jackie Johnston

I know, it is late summer but it isn't too early to start thinking about the holidays or those special occasions coming up.



Are you looking for that perfect gift to give for a Johnston/e family member. We have a wide selection of wonderful products on our Merchandise pages. We have just added Cecil Johnson's new book as well. The reviews have been very good and it is a must for any Johnston library.

It is not too early to start shopping for the holidays. I am putting The Unblessed Hand on my Christmas list. How about you?

You might also consider a membership for a family member. You can fill out an application online at www.clanjohnstone.org or contact Margot Johnston at lucknbooth@aol.com

**Spur & Phoenix going digital.
Sign up to receive it by email.
See page 9.**

Fall Game Schedule for CJA

9/5-6 Capital District Scottish Games, Altamont Fairgrounds, Altamont, NY. Contact Barb Johnston 315-598-3568 butterflyzz1@yahoo.com or scotgames@scotgames.com

9/10-13 Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Festival, Recreation Fields, Estes Park, CO. (800) 90 ESTES

9/18-20 NH Highland Games at Loon Mtn. (CJA AGM) Contact Margot or Arthur Johnston lucknbooth@aol.com

10/3 Williamsburg Scottish Festival - The Rockahock Campgrounds. Contact Don & Carol Boebel dlbsail@cuisp.com 302-541-9422

10/4 Connecticut Scottish Festival, Gosha Fairgrounds, Goshen, CT. Contact Cathleen Johnston Quirion scottishlady1@comcast.net

10/3-4 Reno Celtic Celebration, Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno, NV. Contact George Tabor at oda063@sbcglobal.net

10/10 Anne Arundel Scottish Highland Games, Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, Rt. 178, near Crownsville, MD. Contact Lee Cattell at lmc3550@yahoo.com 410-257-0936

10/11 Scotland Highland Festival, Waldo Homestead, Scotland, CT. Contact Cathleen Quirion scottishlady1@comcast.net

10/17 Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival, Atlanta GA. Contact majrgr@yahoo.com

10/24 Richmond Highland Games & Celtic Festival, Richmond Raceway Complex, Richmond, VA. Contact T.J. Johnston tjcelticrichmond.com



Order Early!

Clan Johnston/e in America

Merchandise & Price List

Great Gifts!



Effective August 1, 2009

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Amount listed in second is for each identical, additional piece (e.a.p.) in same package.

Due to Wholesale and Postal Increases, items and shipping could be changed yearly.

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TARTAN WOOL MATERIAL 100% Worsted Wool, 56" wide New Wool 12/13 oz Ideal for Kilts SPECIFY a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$58.00	\$3.50 each per yard \$1.00 e.a.p.	TARTAN NECKTIES 100% Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz. SPECIFY COLOR 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 per yard \$1.00 e.a.p.	LADIES SASHES Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz 10" x 88" w/2" fringe SPECIFY COLOR a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$44.00	\$3.50 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 TAM 100% Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz Matches Sashes above & Scarves below SPECIFY COLORS a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$36.00	\$3.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.
HEAVY WEIGHT SCARVES Lambs Wool Long Scarf 12"x82" Johnston Modern ONLY Exceptionally Soft	\$19.00	\$3.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.	SCARVES 100% Worsted Wool 4.8 oz. SPECIFY COLOR a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$30.00	\$3.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p.
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CLAN CREST CAP BADGE Rhodium plated – 1 5/8" dia. Annandale Crest Only	\$21.00	\$2.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p.	KEY FOBS Annandale Belted Crest ONLY Small Crest Badge on Leather With ring for keys / Annandale ONLY	\$21.00	\$2.50 each \$1.00e.a.p.
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Forever Young

By Dee Johnston



Did You Know...

Johnston/es have worked in the Film Industry since 1915. Can you match these people to their job? (You can do further research at www.imdb.com)

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Stu Johnston | a. Stunts |
| 2. Kristen Johnston | b. Art Department |
| 3. Dale Johnston | c. Special Effects |
| 4. Joanna Johnston | d. Editor |
| 5. Becky Johnston | e. Animator |
| 6. Joe Johnston | f. Actress |
| 7. Matt Johnston | g. Costumer |
| 8. Ollie Johnston | h. Producer |
| 9. Joan Johnston | i. Director |
| 10. Andrew Johnston | j. Cinematographer |
| 11. Lyndon Johnston | k. Actor |
| 12. Mildred Johnston | l. Writer |
| 13. Ryan L. Johnston | m. Sound Department |
| 14. Thomas M.C. Johnston | n. Make Up Artist |

The next time you watch a movie, watch the credits and see if you can find more Johnston/es!

CJA Scholarships

Scholarships are offered by Clan Johnston/e in America to assist those studying Scottish arts and academics. All branches of music, dancing, athletics and studies are eligible areas of study. Scholarships are intended to support special, one-time or unique activities such as participating in short workshops, traveling to competitions out of your home area or attending music camps.

For more information see the applications at www.clanjohnston.org/scholarships.html



Color the dancers kilts in Clan Johnston colors of green, blue and yellow.



Scots Leid

The Challenge: Try adding these Scottish words in everyday conversation:

- Ben - Mountain
- Burl - Spin
- Brae - Hill
- Burn - Stream
- Firth - River Mouth
- Keek - A Quick Look
- Laddie - Boy
- Lassie - Girl
- Lug - Ear
- Stot - Bounce

Did you attend the games in Scottish dress or play in the games at the Fair? Are you involved in any Scottish Arts? If so, send us some photos. We love to see what our young members are doing!



Answers: 1-c, 2-f, 3-m, 4-g, 5-l, 6-i, 7-a, 8-e, 9-n, 10-k, 11-b, 12-d, 13-j, 14-h.

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