



The **Spur** and **Phoenix** Summer 2011



Chief: The Right Honourable Earl of Annandale and Hartfel

**Three Ends Bridge Restoration Project**

*By Arthur Johnston, Chief Commissioner to Lord Annandale*

At the 2009 AGM held during the NH Highland Games, CJA dissolved the Lochwood Tower Restoration Project due to the road blocks set forth by Historic Scotland that made the project unreachable and unaffordable.

With the help of Lord Annandale and Lord David Johnstone, we came up with a project that is slated to start work 2012 – 2013, called Three Ends Bridge at an estimated cost of 30,000 pds. A vote was taken and passed to transfer the funds of \$1,916.50 from the Lochwood Tower Project to the new Three Ends Bridge Project. This is a foot bridge, with three entrances and a gazebo in the center, giving access over the Duff Kinne Waters about three quarter of a mile from Raehills and within its grounds.

Originally built as a part of the old Victorian walkways, some of our older members who have visited it may remember when the gazebo had a thatched roof. Sadly, the years and weather have taken its toll and it is now in total disrepair.

Our first fund raiser will be a raffle of an acrylic painting of the Three Ends Bridge, painted by CJA member Patricia Hovey, who lives in Belmont, NH and donated by myself. We will also be raffling another acrylic painting of Lochwood Castle “in a lightening storm”, painted and donated by Patricia. The photos here, of the paintings, do not do them justice.

The Three Ends Bridge painting is from an old photo supplied by Lord Annandale and Lord Johnstone, and shows what it and the area looked like in its heyday. The Lochwood Castle painting was done from the model I built a couple years ago. Paintings are approx. 18"x 24".  
*(Continued on page 7 for more information about the raffle and the project.)*



*Three Ends Bridge*



*Lochwood Tower*

# Clan Johnston/e in America

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

*Clan badge designs, copyright Romilly Squire & Gaelic Themes*

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Visit us at

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Send information and events notices to Will Johnstone at [wjohnstone@earthlink.net](mailto: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**

**August 6, 2011**

## Presidents Letter

By Stephen Johnston

It's that time of year that reminds me of that old song that Bob Dylan made popular, "The Times They Are a-Changing". Clan Johnston/e in America (CJA) is once again getting ready for our Annual General Meeting (AGM), to be held this year in Estes Park, Colorado on September 10 in conjunction with the Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival. I certainly hope you'll be able to attend – it's a wonderful festival in a wonderful location hosted by our wonderful Colorado Johnston/es.



You can read more about our AGM plans in this issue of the *Spur and Phoenix*. All our members will be receiving a letter from our Secretary, Cathy Postier, in a couple of months that will contain a proxy card and a list of nominees (some new, some re-upping) for CJA Council positions that are up for re-election this year. If you cannot attend our AGM, please fill out the proxy card and return it to Cathy promptly.

I'd like to thank all our Council members who have served us so well. All are volunteers. There is no pay involved – it's strictly labor of love. *Most especially*, please join me in giving a special **THANK YOU** to Jackie Johnston, our Newsletter Editor since 2004. . She's retiring and this is her next-to-last issue. Jackie has done an outstanding job, and her daughter Dee has been an great helper, especially with our Forever Young Page. The Newsletter Editor position is a MAJOR one in CJA, and involves recruiting articles from our members, composing and editing each issue, and coordinating with our publisher to get each issue "out the door".

Don't forget the Johnston/e trip to Scotland in September too. Details are on our website. [www.clanjohnstone.org](http://www.clanjohnstone.org). You'll have the honor and pleasure to meet our Clan Chief, Lord Annandale, and his family. You'll also be able to spend time in the beautiful Annandale area, visiting the lands of our predecessors dating back to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

In closing, I'd like to request that you spread the joy of being a Johnston/e wherever you go this summer, and especially to Scottish festivals you attend. If you're like me, you carry genes from many different countries, not just Scotland. But just remember – the Scottish genes are the dominant ones, and the Johnston/e genes are the most dominant of all!

Aye Ready

Steve



Flowers of the Forest

Mary C. Burton - Centennial CO  
James Johnston, Jr - Woodstock, GA

Our condolences to CJA Council member Bart Johnston and his family on the passing of his mother.

### Cead Mile Failte

*A hundred thousand welcomes to our new members.*

David Jack Johnson - Edna, TX  
Patricia S. Miller - Salem, IL  
Lilly Freeland - El Verano, CA  
(Sally Epler's grand daughter)  
Harold H. Johnson - Apple Valley, CA

Editor's Note: The Famous Johnston page will not appear in this issue but Bart will be back with a new story in the next issue of the *Spur & Phoenix*.



## Genealogy Corner

Barbara Hockman, Genealogist

[www.Johnstongen.es.blogspot.com](http://www.Johnstongen.es.blogspot.com)

Footnote.com has announced they have started publishing of the War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Applications. They are digitizing millions of War of 1812 records and are currently making them available for free. The first 1,400 record images—mostly those with the surnames beginning with A—are now available, and new records will be added as they're digitized. So what is contained in a War of 1812 Pension Application File?

- \*Veteran's name, age, rank, and service information dates.
- \*The widow's name and maiden name if she applied for the pension.
- \*The soldier's marriage date - the widow's death date.
- \* Acres of land granted, the Bureau of Land Management act under which it was granted and the warrant number.
- \*Applicants place of residence and additional names of surviving dependents.

For those of you looking for your ancestors in Ireland, a website to check out is <http://www.findmypast.ie/>. Findmypast Ireland contains a detailed and thorough collection of Irish records including land records, directories, wills, obituaries, gravestone inscriptions and marriages. The earliest records date back to the 13th century (wills) and include several important collections from the 18th century. The site includes the exclusive publication of the Landed Estates Court Records, an important resource for the mid- to late-nineteenth century, which includes details of over 500,000 tenants on Irish estates. Access to the records is available by an annual subscription or a "pay as you go" option.

Have you heard about [www.Mocavo.com](http://www.Mocavo.com), the world's largest free search engine geared toward genealogists? Mocavo Inc. operates the world's largest free genealogy search engine, accessing the best free genealogy content on the web including billions of names, dates and places. Mocavo.com has a goal to index and make searchable all of the world's free genealogy information. While Mocavo.com discovers new sites every day, some of the existing sites searchable on Mocavo.com include genealogy message boards, family trees, state and local historical societies, the Library of Congress, National Archives, Ellis Island, Find A Grave, the Internet Archive, various U.S. state archives, and many tens of thousands of genealogy sites built by individuals. Be sure to bookmark this site and check it often.

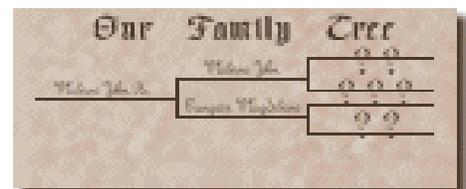
Can you speak Scots? In fact, what is Scots? For those in Scotland that is a question that will be on their census forms and the government has designed a website to help answer this question - [www.ayecan.com](http://www.ayecan.com). This website has snippets of the spoken Scots as well as a written description of the various dialects. It's definitely worth a look and a listen. See how much of the Scots you can understand and see if any of the words have been passed down through your family.

Happy Hunting!

### More information on the September Tour of the Borders and Johnston/e Lands



You can find more information on the tour at [www.teels.wordpress.com](http://www.teels.wordpress.com) or call Terry Barker at 541-758-0808 or 800-233-3225. Details of the tour appeared in the last Spur & Phoenix.





## Canada Reports

By Paul Johnston

### HELP!

The Canadian branch of the Clan Johnston/e desperately needs your help in hosting and attending your local Scottish events. We need tent volunteers for most of the upcoming Highland Games.

Some of our most dedicated members will not be hosting tents this year. Carol Koeslag has announced her retirement from hosting after more than 11 years of outstanding service in Fergus and a number of other Ontario locations. Joan Diminie will be limited in her involvement this year due to travel restrictions and family commitments. Many thanks to both Carol and Joan for their past contributions! There is no doubt that the Canadian membership would not have survived without their help.

Nikki I will be hosting the games in Georgetown and Uxbridge (so far). However we have a scheduling conflict with Fergus in mid August. This is probably the Clan's most important event in Ontario so it is critical that we find someone to host this tent. Please let me know if any members are available to host on Saturday August 13 and I will send you all of the support materials. No experience necessary!

It would also be helpful if members in other provinces would send me dates and locations for Scottish events in their areas. We will publish these in the hopes that this will motivate more people to attend or host a tent and grow our membership.

#### **Hosting a Tent**

Representing the Clan Johnston/e at a Scottish event should not be considered a high pressure affair. It is really just a relaxing day's outing, chatting with visitors at the events. Tent set-up is generally simple. A log is kept for the day and visitors are invited (but not required) to sign-in and provide their contact

information. Those with Johnston/e heritage will usually be more interested in the benefits of joining the Clan. We have information brochures that cover this nicely. And with luck, a visitor will apply for membership!

We also have copies of "The Gentle Johnston/es" book for sale, whose proceeds help support our Clan activities. There are also past copies of the Spur & Phoenix available to illustrate our quarterly updates, and get people interested.

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### Upcoming Events

**May 21-22** Sudbury, ON-Greater Sudbury Celtic Festival & Highland Games. <http://www.celtnorth.com/gscf>

**June 11** Georgetown, ON, Georgetown Highland Games-Paul & Nikki Johnston

<http://www.georgetownhighlandgames.com/index.php?title=Main-Page>

**June 25** Cobourg, ON-Cobourg Highland Games Festival <http://www.couborghighlandgames.ca/>

**July 1-3** Kincardine, ON-Kincardine Scottish Festival, <http://kincardinescottishfestival.ca/>

**July 15-16** Cambridge, ON- Cambridge Highland Games, <http://www.cambridgehighlandgames.org/>

**July 22-24** Fredricton, NB-New Brunswick Highland Games Festival, <http://www.highlandgames.ca/hg/news.html>

**July 23-24** Uxbridge, ON -Highlands of Durham Games- Paul & Nikki Johnston, <http://www.highlandsofdurhamgames.com/>

**July 29-30** Maxville, ON - Glengarry Highland Games, <http://www.glengarryhighlandgames.com/>

**August 12-14** Fergus, ON- Fergus Scottish Festival & Highland Games, <http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com/>

**Sept. 9-10**, Trenton, ON-Trenton Scottish Irish Festival, <http://trentonscottishirish.com/v2/>

Please let us know of any other events in your area and contact Paul Johnston if you are able to participate.

Here's hoping that our dreadful winter and spring turn into a lovely summer! Let's all get out there and enjoy Canada and our Johnston/e heritage!

Clan Aye,  
Paul Johnston

# Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games, May 14, 2011

By Micah Johnston

It was cold and rainy but I was very pleasantly surprised at all the people that came out and enjoyed the fair this year. They had a number of women competing in the heavy games, which I don't remember in years past, or at least not the last few years. It was nice to see. I had a great time as always, even if we were wearing many layers.



*MN CJA Commissioner Micah Johnston*



*Micah with nephew Dominic, sister Tristan, niece Athena and father Nick Johnston.*



**Bad weather couldn't keep these Johnstons down!**



*Micah & his dad, Nick Johnston in front of the Clan Johnston/e tent with the dance award winner for the Clan Award that was sponsored by Clan Johnston/e this year. The winner in the picture with us is Mallory Hirvi.*



**Nick Johnston**

Nick is the Representative for Clan Johnston/e in America to the Minnesota Coalition of Scottish Clans.

Our thanks to Nick and Micah for sponsoring the dance competition in the name of Clan Johnston/e in America.



## 2011 AGM REGISTRATION FORM

*Cead Mile Failte!* A Hundred Thousand Welcomes. We would like to invite all CJA members to experience a true *Rocky Mountain High* at the 40<sup>th</sup> AGM meeting in beautiful Estes Park, Colorado in 2011 during the Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival September 9,10, 11.

The host hotel will be the **Rodeway Inn** (formerly The Inn at Estes). Rooms have been blocked off (\$119.00 for a premium double queen room), and taking advantage of our 501(c) (3) tax-exempt status, the cost of the rooms will reflect no additional room tax. The hotel also offers a free continental breakfast. When booking your room, please be sure to mention you are a part of the Clan Johnston/e group. The toll-free number is 1-800-458-1182. Deadline is August 1, 2011. Included in the room block are four pet-friendly rooms. The fee for a pet is \$10.00 per day.

**The AGM Banquet** will also be held at the hotel on **Saturday evening**, and will feature prime rib and salmon as the entrée. Cost of the meal is \$35.00 per person.

**Tickets for the festival need to be ordered individually. This can be done through the web site at [www.scotfest.com](http://www.scotfest.com).**

Estes Park is the gateway to Rocky Mountain National Park, and is always an exceptional spot for a vacation ~ so maybe you could begin ~ or extend ~ your fall getaway and join us in Estes Park. We look forward to seeing you all!

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### CLAN JOHNSTON/E IN AMERICA – AGM “ESTES 2011” REGISTRATION FORM

We are planning to attend the CJA AGM Estes 2011 in Estes Park, Colorado, September 9,10, 11. Please register us for the following events:

\_\_\_\_ CJA Estes General Registration Fee    \_\_\_\_ persons @\$5.00 each.    Total \$ \_\_\_\_  
    (covers misc. AGM expenses)  
\_\_\_\_ Saturday Banquet and AGM            \_\_\_\_ persons @\$35.00 each.    Total \$ \_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to Clan Johnston/e and mail with completed form to:**  
Billye Telling, 7473 Dale Court, Westminster, Colorado 80030.

**Registrations must be made no later than August 1, 2011 to allow for convention facility planning.**

**To help us in planning and arranging group accommodations, please indicate the following:**

\_\_\_\_ We will be staying at the Rodeway Inn at Estes Park.  
\_\_\_\_ We will march in the CJA group in the Saturday Morning Parade. (*Wear your TARTAN!*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## Summer Games Schedule May-August

**5/27-28/2011 Greenville Scottish Games & Highland Festival**, Furman University, Greenville SC, Saturday May 28th Parade on Friday 27th, downtown Greenville SC Festival News! Clan Johnston/e will participate in the Great Scott! Parade and have a tent at the games. For more information please contact Buz Johnson, 394 Birchwood Street, Easley, SC 29642, Phone 864 907-2596, Email [buzjohnson@bellsouth.net](mailto:buzjohnson@bellsouth.net)

**6/4-5/2011 Bellingham Highland Games** <http://www.bellinghamhighland.org/> Hovander Homestead Park Ferndale, Washington CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**6/17-18/2011 Illinois Saint Andrew Society's Annual Highland Games** <http://www.chicago-scots.org> Hamilton Lakes, Itasca, Illinois, CJA Tent Sponsor: Margaret & Harry Teiwes, 2200 Stirrup Lane, Wheaton, IL 60189  
Contact: 630-260-0929 or Email Harry Teiwes at [mthat@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mthat@sbcglobal.net)

**6/18/2011 Fort Ticonderoga Scottish Festival & Black Watch Memorial**, Sandy Redoubt Rd, Ticonderoga, NY 12883, CJA Tent Sponsor: Greg Stone, E-Mail: [gstone@arcmech.com](mailto:gstone@arcmech.com)

**6/18/2011 Prosser Celtic Fest** <http://prosserscottishfest.org/> Prosser, Washington. CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**6/25/2011 Tacoma Highland Games** <http://www.tacomagames.org/> Graham, Washington, CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**7/7-10/2011 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games** <http://www.gmhg.org> P.O. Box 1095, Linville, NC 28646  
MacRae Meadows, Grandfather Mountain near Linville, NC. Online Tickets:  
<http://www.gmhg.org/onlineorder.htm> CJA Tent Sponsor: Steve Johnston, President, Clan Johnston/e in America 215 SE Maynard Rd., Cary, NC 2751, Home Phone: 919-380-7707, Cell Phone: 919-614-2966, E-Mail: [sajscot@aol.com](mailto:sajscot@aol.com)

**7/9-10/2011 Skagit Valley Highland Games** <http://www.celticarts.org/> Mount Vernon, Washington  
CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**7/29-31/2011 Seattle Scottish Highland Games** <http://www.sshga.org/> Enumclaw, Washington  
CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**8/13/2011 Whidbey Island Highland Games** <http://www.wihg.org/> Greenbank, Washington  
CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

**8/20/2011 Maine Highland Games** <http://www.mainehighlandgames.org> Topsham Fair Grounds, Topsham, Maine CJA tent sponsors: Catherine Postier, 1001 Meadow St., Littleton, NH 03561, Phone: (603)444-5025, Cell: (603)616-4852, E-Mail: [cpostier@roadrunner.com](mailto:cpostier@roadrunner.com)

**8/26-28/2011 Highland Community Days**, Tieton, Washington  
<http://www.nachesvalleychamber.com/orgshighlandcommunitydays.html>  
CJA Contact: Lindsey Johnstone at [clanjohnston-e@comcast.net](mailto:clanjohnston-e@comcast.net), phone 425-271-7783

Don't forget the AGM on September 10, 2011 at the Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival (September 9-11). You will find more information in this Spur & Phoenix and on our website. The Fall Schedule will be in the next issue of the Spur and Phoenix.

## Scotch Whisky

By Stephen Johnston

Scotch whisky is Scotland's #1 export. The spelling "whisky" is unique to Scotland, it's not a misprint – it may be that the Scots were just superior spellers. Whisky in Scotland began with single malts, at least as early as 1494. Single malts are the basis for vatted malts and blends, which began to appear much later

"Whisky" is an Anglicization of the Gaelic "uisgebeathe", or "water of life". The basic requirements for a magic elixir to be called whisky are set forth as the five standards in the Scotch Whisky Act of 1988 (and further clarified in the UK Scotch Whisky Order of 1990). These require that to be called "Scotch whisky", it:

- \* Must be distilled at a Scottish distillery from water and malted barley, to which only other whole grains may be added, have been processed at that distillery into a mash, converted to a fermentable substrate only by endogenous enzyme systems, and fermented only by the addition of yeast.
- \* Must be distilled to an alcoholic strength of less than 94.8% by volume so that it retains the flavor of the raw materials used in its production.
- \* Must be matured in Scotland oak casks for not less than 3 years.
- \* Must not contain any added substance other than water and caramel color.
- \* May not be bottled at less than 40% alcohol by volume (no less than 80 proof).

There are basically three types of Scotch whisky, as follows:

- \* *Single malts*: made from malted barley, distinctive of the regions (water, peat, etc) in which they're distilled, aged at least three years, and pricey (price is primarily a function of age in the cask).
- \* *Vatted malts*: a mixture of single malts, pricey, and price is a function of which single malts are included as well as their age in the cask (for example, malts in Johnny Walker Blue are aged at least 18 years, the price of a bottle is over \$205).
- \* *Blends*: a mixture of single malts and grain (not malted barley) alcohol, more "homogenized" thus less distinctive, and cheaper than single malts (their price too is a function of % and age of single malts in the blend); they date from the 1830's and were developed to tap the "mass market" rather than to be sold to connoisseurs.

The Scotch Whisky Association in 2005 promulgated a new classification scheme, which is slightly different than that above. It replaces the *single malt* category with a *single grain* category, which includes single malt and pure grain alcohol (there are only 7 distilleries of latter type, all in the Lowlands, and their output is extremely high proof). It also changes the name of the *vatted malts* category to *vatted/blended malts*. Many folks consider this update to be too confusing, so they prefer to stick with the earlier categorization and naming.

Since blends are the more prevalent (albeit less desirable) form of Scotch whisky on store shelves, we'll address them first, then follow with some information on single malts (note: some of the prices quoted in this article may be a bit dated, but while the absolute prices may be a bit understated, the relative order by price remains the same):

- \* Blends are grain (typically non-malted barley or maize) alcohol blended with a mixture of single malts; more grain alcohol in blend means a cheaper price and a broader market.
- \* Blends are higher alcohol content by volume (higher proof) than single malts.
- \* Blends are typically 60% to 85% grain whisky, and grain whisky is over 90% alcohol by volume (over 180 proof), as compared with the 40 – 45 % alcohol by volume (80 – 90 proof) typical of single malts that are going into the blend, although cask strength single malts are in the 50-55 cask, not in the bottle) in the blend.

Age means nothing for grain alcohol! To illustrate how price can vary with age, here are some examples: Johnny Walker Red (7 years, price around \$25 per 750 milliliter bottle), Johnny Walker Black (12 years, price around \$35), Johnny Walker Green (15 years, price over \$50), Johnny Walker Gold (18 years, price over \$70). By comparison, and as noted above, Johnny Walker's vatted malt (no grain alcohol), Johnny Walker Blue, contains malts aged a minimum of 18 years, and is priced over \$205.

Single Malts (aka “the good stuff”) were developed at least as early as 1494 as noted above. They are the only component in vatted malts, and the key component in blends. Purists like to drink it “neat” – there is an old tale about a man coming up to the bar and ordering a single malt on the rocks and with a dash of water; an old Scotsman sitting at the bar looks askance at him and says “now you’ve ruined it twice”. The process of making of single malts is like beer making up to the distillation step. An overview of the key steps in this process is as follows (and recall that all steps must be performed in Scotland):

\* Malting

- \*\* barley is screened to remove foreign matter
- \*\* then it is soaked for 2-3 days in tanks of water known as steepes
- \*\* wet barley is then spread out on a solid floor known as the malting floor, constantly turned (previously by hand, now mostly automated in cylindrical drums or rectangular Saladin boxes), and allowed to germinate
- \*\* during germination (a period of 8 –12 days), an enzyme called “diastase” is produced which converts the starch in the malt to sugar
- \*\* the malted barley, called “green malt”, is then put into a malt kiln, a kiln with a perforated floor through which hot air and smoke from a peat flame (usually marsh peat, not forest peat) rises, and this stops the germination
- \*\* the smoke from the peat fire imparts a degree of “peak reek” to the malted barley, and the degree affects the flavor of the ultimate product
- \*\* most distilleries now buy malted barley rather than do it themselves— they’ve typically turned their old malt houses into visitor’s centers

\* Mashing

- \*\* the dried malt is put into a mill which grinds it into a “grist”, which resembles coarse flour
- \*\* it is mixed with hot water in a circular tub called a “wash tun”, where the soluble starch is converted into a sugary liquid called “wort”
- \*\* the wort is then drawn off, and solids left behind are fed to cattle

\* Fermentation

- \*\* the hot wort is then cooled, and sent to large vessels called “washbacks”
- \*\* yeast is added to the cooled wort, the mix is stirred vigorously, and fermentation takes place over a 48-hour period
- \*\* The fermented product is similar to beer, and is called “wash” (I know – I’ve even been “sloshed” with wash spilling out of the mash tun at the Cardhu distillery on the Speyside Whisky Trail)

\* Distillation

- \*\* distillation occurs in at least two (three in Auchentoshen, Rosebank, and Springbank) large copper kettles with long necks, called “pot stills”
- \*\* the number of stills doesn’t necessarily affect the proof of the spirit, but does affect its clarity
- \*\* the first still is called the “wash still”, and the liquid is heated over a peat flame until the alcohol vaporizes, then it is cooled in the coiled portion (the “worm”), and condensed into a liquid
- \*\* this distillate is called the “low wines”
- \*\* the second still is called the “spirit still”; it is similar to the wash still but smaller because there is less liquid now
- \*\* the resulting product is called “spirit”, and is tested — for desired quality and to comply with government regulations — by a “stillman” using hydrometers in a locked “spirit safe”; which allows the stillman to test the liquid without drawing samples
- \*\* the spirit contains several compounds that condense at different points in the cooling process; it is the “middle cut” or “heart of the run” that is of most interest to the stillman. (*Cont. page 12*)



\*\* since the spirit cannot be tested by taste or smell, the experience of the stillman is paramount; he sends the first raw runnings, the “foreshots”, and some or all of the last runnings, the “feints”, back to the low wines receiver for redistillation in the spirit still

\*\* the distilled liquor is colorless; color is added through caramelization or leaching of color from previously-used casks (e.g., sherry, port, bourbon, Madeira, etc)

\*\* there is a great reluctance to replace stills (they’re usually just patched) and even to clean them, for fear that the unique characteristics of the product might be compromised

\* Maturation in casks

\*\* casks are oak, but “pre-used” casks are typically purchased (pre-used in making of sherry, bourbon, port, Madeira) as these impart softness, color, and taste to the product

\*\* number of years in the cask determine the age of the product; the minimum aging period is 3 years for it to be called Scotch Whisky

\*\* there has been a recent trend to market “double wood” products – the aging period is split between port and Madeira casks, e.g.

\* Chill filtration (at temperatures close to the freezing point of water)

\*\* this step is only used in distilling grain alcohol for use in blends

\*\* it is not used in single malt production, since it may remove some flavor as it improves clarity

The key regions for single malts are as follows: Lowlands, Speyside (on the Speyside whisky trail there is an old saying, “Rome has 7 hills, Dufftown has 7 stills”), Highlands (including Orkney), Campbeltown, and Islay. Regional differences (e.g., the peatiness of the local water, as well as what’s in the peat such as gorse, heather, and kelp) impart differences in the taste of single malts. The Lowland malts (e.g., Rosebank, Auchentoshen) tend to be the least distinctive (lots of gorse in the peat), whereas the Islay malts (e.g., Laphroaig, Bowmore) tend to be the most distinctive (lots of kelp in the peat, and the medicinal taste is Iodine which is concentrated by kelp from seawater).

Prices for single malts can range widely, from around 20\$ per 750 milliliter bottle to astronomical figures (about 25 years ago I saw bottle of Tamdhu — a Speyside malt — aged 80 years for sale on Fisherman’s Wharf in San Francisco for \$6,000). Prices depend primarily on the age in the cask and consumer demand. Aging imparts mellowness to the single malt, but this effect tapers off after about 25- 30 years. Aging is expensive because money is tied up for longer periods of time; to counter this somewhat, many distillers now sell shares in a distillery run or hogsheads for future delivery (i.e., like a futures market). Aging is also expensive because of loss of up to 2% in volume each year (called the “angel’s share”) during the aging process.

Finally, there has been an increase in foreign ownership of single malt distilleries in the past 25 years, especially by the Japanese (e.g. Tomatin, Bowmore, and even Macallan, one of the “top two” among Scots, the other being Glenmorangie). Also, there has been an increase in the number of bottlers/marketers who don’t own a distillery – they buy the matured product from distilleries, bottle it, and put their name and region on it (e.g., McClelland’s, Highland Malt).

Is your mouth watering now? Try a Single Malt Scotch Whisky tasting sometime. Strictly for medicinal purposes, of course!

*Steve Johnston*



# Clan Johnston/e in America

## Merchandise & Price List

Effective February 2010

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

Item	Price	Shipping	Item	Price	Shipping
<b>TRAVEL RUGS</b> (Throws) 56" x 72" 100% Wool Johnston Modern Colors ONLY	\$89.00	\$12.50 each \$ 5.00 e.a.p	<b>CLAN CREST NECKTIES</b> Navy Poly w/repeated Crest woven into Material Annandale Belted Crest ONLY!	\$21.00	\$4.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.
<b>TARTAN WOOL MATERIAL</b> 100% Worsted Wool, 56" wide New Wool 12/13 oz Ideal for Kilts SPECIFY a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$58.00	\$4.00 each per yard \$1.50 e.a.p.	<b>TARTAN NECKTIES</b> 100% Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz. SPECIFY COLOR a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$19.00	\$4.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p.
<b>POLY / RAYON MATERIAL</b> 60" Wide, Old Colors ONLY Light weight, small pattern and washable	\$12.50	\$3.50 each per yard \$1.50 e.a.p.	<b>LADIES SASHES</b> Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz 10" x 88" w/2" fringe SPECIFY COLOR a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$44.00	\$4.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p.
<b>SILK TIES</b> Regimental Stripe, Johnston colors Goes with either Old Colors or Modern Kilt. Classy with a suit too.	\$45.00	\$4.00 each 2.00 e.a.p	<b>6 PIECE TAM</b> 100% Worsted Wool, 4.8 oz Matches Sashes above & Scarves below SPECIFY COLORS a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$36.00	\$4.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.
Please Note that all Wool Material Items are made in the U.K.			<b>SCARVES</b> 100% Worsted Wool 4.8 oz. SPECIFY COLOR a) Modern b) Old Colors	\$30.00	\$4.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.
<b>JEWELRY:</b>			<b>KEY FOBS</b> Small Crest Badge on Leather With ring for keys / Annandale ONLY	\$21.00	\$3.50 each \$1.50e.a.p
<b>CLAN CREST CAP BADGE</b> Rhodium plated – 1 5/8" dia. Annandale Belted Crest ONLY	\$21.00	\$3.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.	<b>PENDANTS</b> Small Crest Badge on 16" Chain Rhodium plated – Annandale Crest ONLY	\$21.00	\$2.50 each \$1.50 e.a.p.
<b>KILT PINS</b> Small Crest Badge on Claymore Pin Rhodium plated, Annandale Crest ONLY	\$21.00	\$3.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p			
<b>LAPEL PINS</b> Small Crest Badge on Stick Pin Rhodium plated – Annandale Crest ONLY	\$19.00	\$2.50 each \$1.00 e.a.p.			

*For Caskieben Jewelry, contact the Johnstons at the Number or address by the Order Form.  
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# Forever Young

By Dee Johnston



It's fishing season in America. Here is how they fish for trout in Scotland.

Color this picture.



According to the book *The Gentle Johnstons* by Russell C. Honey, Sir Walter Scott used this stanza from an old ballad as the introduction to Chapter VIII of his poem, *The Fair Maid of Perth* in 1828.

*Within the bounds of Annandale,  
The gentle Johnstones ride;  
They have been there a thousand years,  
And a thousand more they'll bide.*  
---Old Ballad

## Historic Locations Word Find

Find the historic locations listed on the right in the word find below. All these sites have historical significance with the Johnston/es. When you are done, check out these places on our website at [www.clanjohnstone.org](http://www.clanjohnstone.org).



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See page 7 to check your answers.

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