



BLAIR BRUIDHINN



Blair of Blair

• Honorary Member Rt. Hon. Robin Blair — Former Lord Lyon King of Arms of Scotland •

Blair of Balthayock

“Blair Talk” for Clan Blair Society

www.clanblair.org

First Quarter – February 2016

President’s Message



Fellow Scots:

Winter is here and the celebration of Robert Burns’ birth is so very special. We are warmed by the Haggis and Whisky, and by the friendship of great Clan members and families. As we look forward to spring time, CBS state clans will begin the planning for festivals and Scottish games. It is a time for renewal and the joy of our Celtic Heritage.

I send you best wishes for a joyous celebration of the spring with State/Federal Tartan Day festivals, Kirk’n O the Tartan services and then a summer of games. Our editor has once again captured the fun, fellowship and heritage we have shared with each other and the plans for the spring and summer. Huzzah!

Membership Chair Charlie Diman reports that our membership remains strong at 238 members, a nice increase from last year of 5 – Huzzah! Charlie has done a splendid job of growing our membership and we send our thanks. In 2016, we will restructure the Membership Chair job to share a few of the current duties. If you are willing to mail materials, track membership payments or help keep the data base current, please contact Charlie or me.

You will be receiving your annual notice to renew membership in CBS by March 31, 2016. Please see the reminder notice later in this newsletter and I

encourage you to renew and continue receiving the benefits of CBS membership.

CBS continues to present history and subjects of interest via web broadcasts 3 times/per year. Subjects include 1) our Scottish heritage, 2) Celtic celebrations, 3) Scottish Attire, 4) Genealogy, 5) Scottish music, 6) historic events and battles, and 7) interviews with CBS leaders. All have been recorded and are available to members on the www.clanblair.org website (members only section).

We are looking for new subjects that are of interest to you – please contact me with your ideas and questions.

We continue to seek a member to oversee the CBS library. This is an important position that oversees the library inventory and provides leadership to the processes for use of the materials. Please contact me with your interest.

I look forward to your questions and ideas.

It is a Great Day to be a Scot - Sláinte!

Jim Blair
president@clanblair.org

+++++

HIGH COMMISSIONER’S REPORT

Curt Blair

The life blood of Clan Blair is our state commissioners. Therefore, it is incumbent that we are diligently on the lookout for new commissioners. One of the things that I think would be helpful for the commissioners to be thinking about is how can I duplicate myself. It would be great if we could keep our eyes open to who out of the people that you are in contact with that could fill

your position? We have several positions that are vacant and a few that are seeking to retire. Among them that are retiring is Wyomia of South Carolina, Bill Blair in California and Whit Young of Utah. I am pleased to say that Maggie Blair will take over for Wyomia. (Welcome Maggie! We are looking forward to working with you!) I want to thank all the commissioners for the hard work they do in representing Clan Blair and our Scottish heritage.

Curtis Blair
High Commissioner
Clan Blair Society
cublair145@gmail.com
719-578-8095

+++++

ARIZONA REPORT

Helen Blair
Commissioner for Arizona
Azclanblair@gmail.com

March 12, 2016, is the 33rd Annual St. Patrick’s Day Parade and Irish Faire in Phoenix.. The Parade will start at 10am on 3rd Street from Sheridan to McDowell. The Faire will be at the Hance Park, west of Central. 1106 N. Central, Phoenix, AZ. The Faire starts at 10am. Tickets can be purchased early or at the gates. There will be free shuttles and the park is along the light rail.

www.Stpatricksdaysphoenix.org

March 18, 2016, there will be a Solo Pipe Jam and Whiskey Tasting, 7-9pm, at the Kierland Resort and Spa, 6902 E. Greenfield Parkway, Scottsdale, AZ. More information can be found at www.ArizonaScots.com

March 19th & 20th 2016 is the 52nd Annual Glenmorangie Arizona Scottish Gathering and Highland Games. This event will be held again at Steel Indian School Park. 300 E. Indian School Road, Phoenix. The park is also located along Central Ave and the light rail, north of Indian School road, entrance also along 7th Street. This year they will be hosting the 20th Anniversary of Woman Scottish Athletics. There will be expanded athletics, kids’ area, and genealogy tents. Look for dancing and music competitions also. British cars will be on display along with beer and whiskey

tasting booths. Wicked Tinkers, Celtica and Stoneybank will be playing both days along with other entertainment. Saturday evening there will be a Ceilidh that is included in the price of admission or at the gate. For game information

www.arizonascots.com

Opening ceremony will be Saturday at noon. Afterwards, at 1:30pm, we will have a memorial service for Bob Blair at the Clan Blair tents. Food, drink and snacks will be provided. I hope you can join us to give him a good send-off. He was very active in the Celtic community and Clan Blair Society.

+++++

A DIFFERENT BURNS NIGHT ON THE OREGON COAST

By Bill Blair, Clan Blair Society Commissioner for Oregon

My experience of Burns Night Supper has heretofore been limited to the very traditional celebration hosted by the Portland Metro Pipe Band. By “traditional” I mean a reading of Burns’ poetry and accompanying lecture by a master of ceremonies who is a scholar fluent in the Lowland Scots dialect of “Rabbie” Burns; our master of ceremonies welcoming the piping in of the haggis and reciting Burns “Ode to a Haggis” as he opens the haggis with a dirk; and a toast of single malt Scotch whisky. There was entertainment of solo and pipe band Highland music, traditional Scottish dancing, and a throng of kilted men and tartaned women to celebrate the birth of Scotland’s immortal bard.

This year, for reasons to which I am not privy, the Portland Metro Pipe Band abandoned their long tradition of a Burns Night Supper in favor of a more modern “pub” night with no tribute to Burns. I’d hate to think they were bored with Burns, but



for whatever reason we were left without a public Burns Night Supper in the Portland area. It was a blessing in disguise.

The Celtic Heritage Alliance, based in the City of Newport on the Oregon Coast, sponsored its Fifth Annual Robert Burns Supper on January 30th, so we decided to make the journey to honor our Bard. It was a thoroughly enjoyable, albeit different, experience, almost under the shadow of the beautiful Yaquina Bay Bridge.

Tartans were in abundance, and quite a few were Irish. Advertised as “semi-formal, black tie,” the dress for men ranged from Prince Charlie coatees to



clean blue jeans. There was not a Great Highland bagpipe to be seen or heard the whole evening. Instead, a pair of local multi-instrumentalists, whose repertoire is primarily traditional

Irish music, gave a delightful performance of Celtic music and dancing.

The haggis was piped in to the music of the *uilleann* pipes played by one of these musicians. For those unfamiliar with the *uilleann* pipes, a continuous flow of air is provided not by the lungs filling a bag, but by continuous pumping of a bellows strapped to the body and worked by the elbow. Thus, the term “*uilleann*” – Gaelic for “elbow.” Unlike the Great Highland Pipes, which are limited to only nine notes on the chanter plus the monotone drone pipes, the *uilleann* pipes are capable of both harmony and a full chromatic scale in two octaves. The *uilleann* pipes can be found in Scotland, typically in the Lowlands, but are nowhere near as prevalent as the bagpipes, and, as accompaniment to the haggis are certainly non-traditional.

The chef did the honor of carving the haggis with a chef’s knife, and our host, Belinda Goody, Interim President of the Celtic Heritage Alliance, read the



Ode to a Haggis with great verve, and in a distinctly Pacific Northwest American accent. One each of a flight of five single malt whiskies accompanied four toasts and the Ode to a Haggis. The Selkirk Grace was recited to open the meal, and a group sing of “Auld Lang Syne” (three of its verses to the new “traditional” American tune) closed the evening. Whatever may have been non-traditional about the evening, was made up for in the menu:



Scotch Eggs
Cock-A-Leekie Soup and Garden Salad
Haggis, Neeps & Tatties
Stuffed Chicken Breast with Peppercorn Sauce
Roasted Vegetables
Drambuie Trifle, Assorted Truffles, Shortbread

It did not occur to me until writing this piece that the memory of the event this year takes on a sad pall, recognizing that the city of Burns, Oregon, named in honor of the Greatest Scot, is the scene of the tragic occupation of the Harney County Wildlife Refuge – a community torn apart by the actions of outside dissidents whose political zeal allowed them to ignore the people of the peaceful community they invaded. As I write these words I pray for the peaceful end of this “occupation,” and the healing of the community of Burns.



I digress. Our table-mates at supper included William Wallace “Clyde” Reid, president of Clan Donnachaid of the Pacific Northwest. Two descendants of Robert Burns attended, and there was a Scottish ex-patriot couple, originally from Glasgow, as well as a Northumberland ex-pat

who did his best to hide behind his Robertson tartan. Single malt whisky, energetic Irish step-dancing, piping and fiddling, and great good company honored our Bard and made the evening unforgettable. That and, of course, a room with a view of the Pacific Ocean on a weekend marked by far more sun than showers, and fresh Dungeness crab at local restaurants. While my hunger for the skirl of the Great Highland Pipes went unfulfilled, I can say that we're all definitely looking forward to next year!

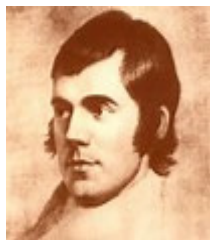
COMING EVENTS IN OREGON (and one in Washington)

Clan Blair Society will have a presence at the Oregon Scottish Heritage Festival in Albany in March, the Newport Celtic Festival in June, and, over the summer, we plan to have a clan tent at the Eugene Highland Games, the Portland Highland Games, the Whidbey Island Highland Games, the Douglas County Highland Games, and, in October, the MacKenzie Highland Games. More details later.



**Slàinte mhath!
Bill Blair**

+++++



Robert Burns, Poet

January 25, 1759-July 21, 1796

Robert Burns, also known as Rabbie Burns, the Bard of Ayrshire and various other names and

epithets, was a Scottish poet and lyricist. He is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland and is celebrated worldwide. He is the best known of the poets who have written in the Scots language, although much of his writing is also in English and a light Scots dialect, accessible to an audience beyond Scotland. He also wrote in standard English, and in these writings his political or civil commentary is often at its bluntest. (From Wikipedia short bio.)

+++++

ANOTHER SURPRISING BLAIR!

Looking for Eric [Blair] George Orwell in the 1939 Register (Online Blog, Janet Mc Donald)

We were searching the 1939 Register for George Orwell, who should have been living in Britain at the time. After a few fruitless searches we suddenly realized that we were missing one basic fact: George Orwell was a pen name.



Eric with his mother, Ida, in 1903

Eric Arthur Blair was born in Motihari, a British colony in Bengal, in 1903. His father worked in the opium industry, overseeing the transport of goods into Asia.

For several years after finishing school Eric worked for the Imperial Police Force in Burma, before returning to England and starting to work as a freelance writer. He spent the next few years living in poverty, spending his time working any odd job he could find, in hotels, restaurants and bookshops.

During this time, he lived on Portobello Road in London and in the Latin Quarter of Paris.

In 1931 *New Adelphi* magazine published Eric's essay "The Spike", an account of a night spent in a London workhouse, and Eric soon became a regular contributor. The editor, Richard Rees, recalled that Eric had been unwilling to see his name in print. Rees said that it gave Eric "an unpleasant feeling to see his real name in print because 'how can you be sure your enemy won't cut it out and work some kind of black magic on it?' Whimsy, of course; but even Orwell's genuine streak of old-fashioned conventionality sometimes bordered on whimsy and you could not always be quite certain if he was serious or not".



Eric on Southwold beach in the 1930s

In 1932, Eric wrote a letter to his agent, Leonard Moore, before the publication of *Down and Out in Paris and London*, an account of his life in poverty. Eric hadn't wanted his family to be ashamed of his "tramping", as he called it.

"As to a pseudonym, the name I always use when tramping etc. is P.S. Burton, but if you don't think this sounds a probable kind of name, what about Kenneth Miles, George Orwell, H. Lewis Allways. I rather favour George Orwell."

The name "Orwell" came from the river in Suffolk, where his family had settled around the time Eric left for Burma. His sister, Avril, ran a tea shop there, and Eric enjoyed going on long walks along the River Orwell. "George" is thought to have been

after King George V, who was on the throne at the time.

+++++



Hi

Honey, it's me. I won't be out long because the fish aren't biting. Hey, tell me again how to work the camera in this phone?



SCOTTISH HUMOUR
 Voted Best Scottish Short Joke

A bloke walks into a Glasgow library and says to the prim librarian,

'Excuse me Miss, dey ye hiv ony books on suicide?'

To which she stops doing her tasks, looks at him over the top of her glasses and says,

"Get lost! Ye'll no bring it back!"

MERRY CHRISTMAS

COLORADO BURNS SUPPER

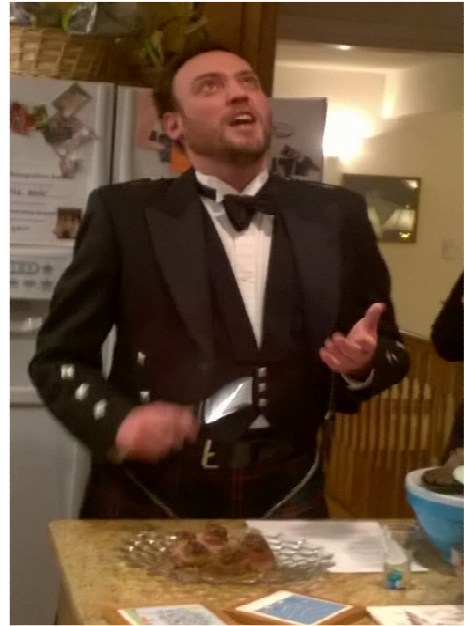
The Colorado CBS hosted a Burns Supper on February 6. More than 50 CBS members and friends joined together at the home of Jim and Adoree Blair to enjoy fellowship, Blair Athol single malt whisky, haggis, smoked pork butt and lovely deserts including a Nessie cake with fondant and cake made by Erynn Blair Shryack.



Nessie the Sea Monster cakes



The Ode to the Haggis was admirably recited by Torin Blair



Torin Blair, haggis plate held high in celebration, led us as we marched to the Highland Cathedral.





The Lassies were toasted in Robert Burns' style by CBS President Jim Blair: "...And so we toast the daughters of the Celts, as celebrated in the verse of Robert Burns, in all their beauty, dignity, strength, and yes, in their ferocity. "A Woman can make an average man great, and a great man average."

The event was topped off with deserts, whisky and great fun and chatter. More than a dozen children played together and all enjoyed a wonderful evening.



Burns Supper Attendees
2/6/16

Front row L-R: Aston Kirkpatrick, Charlotte Burnett, Cordylia Blair Shryack, Jackson Burnett, Theresa Cooper, Megan Judd, Tiernan Blair Galligan, Atia Blair, Saoirse Blair Galligan, Kate Kirkpatrick, Lochlann Blair Shryack and Erynn Blair Shryack.

Second row L-R: Leslie Blair Gallagher, Quinnlin Blair, Celton Judd, Kim Blair, Kim H., Arabella Blair, Dyani Blair Galligan, Sher Zimmer, Heather Zimmer, Anne Blair, Katte Judd, Brian Cooper, Fran McKinnis.

Third row L-R: Dan Burnett, Amanda Hilton, Torin Blair, Matt Plump, Catlin Bauer, Adoree Blair, Elysa Campbell, Sara Buys, Janet McLaughlin, Bill Clanahan, Kate Blair, Mary Clanahan, Heather, Jason Zimmer, Ineke Cordova, Marianne Blair, Jim Blair, Bob Blair, Jim McKinnis.

Forth row L-R: TBD, Jean Kullas, Peter Kirkpatrick, Melony Kirkpatrick, Nick Shryack, Russ Rainey, Ryan Blair, Curtis Blair, Christian Leman, Madeline Leman, Elizabeth Blair Leman

Not pictured: Karen Hart (photographer)

Share your “BURNSIE”

[From the Colorado St. Andrews Society]

After Queen Victoria and Christopher Columbus, there are apparently more Burns Statues in the world than of any other non-religious figure. To tie in with this they have launched a ‘Burnsie’ campaign – people taking pics with their nearest Burns statue or simply take a picture of them doing something ‘Burns’ related for example tucking into a dish of Haggis, Neeps and Tatties or enjoying a dram. All of the images uploaded will then be included in a special Burns collage which will be revealed online on Burns Night.

- To find out where your nearest Burns statue is and to upload your ‘Burnsie’, simply visit <http://www.scotland.org/whats-on/burns-night/join-our-global-burns-celebration/>.

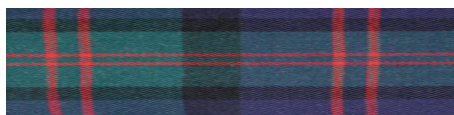
- Another way to upload your ‘Burnsie’ is via Instagram or Twitter, simply follow @AboutScotland and share your image using the hashtag #burnsie by Sunday 24 January to be included in the collage to be revealed on Scotland.org and our AboutScotland social channels on Monday 25th

+++++

St. Andrew’s Society Events

A St. Andrew’s Society most likely offers activities and events in your area of the country. Please search your local chapter and share your Clan Blair Society membership with them through participation in their events throughout the year.

+++++



Recorded Broadcasts Available on Members-only website

All webinar hosted presentations by the CBS Board are available for your viewing on the Members-only website

(<http://members.clanblair.org>).

Please let Shawn Blair know if you have questions or encounter and difficulty viewing these wonderful programs

(weblaird@clanblair.org).

+++++

Scotland Trip

Charlie Diman reports that his trip to Scotland departs August 27, 2016. It is open for others and Charlie will happily provide the details. Please contact Charlie at Clanblairmembership@clanblair.org.

+++++

Membership – Renewal 2016

Charlie Diman – Membership Chair

CBS now has 238 Total Members, a nice increase of 5 from 2015 - 174 are Annual renewals, 6 are Honorary members, and 58 are Life Time members. The recruiting of new members be State Commissioners is resulting in growth and all are to be congratulated.

Charlie is in the process of sending “final Notice” post cards to annual members who have not paid their 2016 Dues. The mailings will be sent in early March and we would appreciate payment as soon as possible. Website access to the “Members Only” portion of the site will be lost when the password is changed at the end of March. Presently 45 annual members are not up to date – please send your renewal now!

+++++

FLOWERS OF THE FIELD



Dorothy “Dot” Blair Linderman



Dorothy “Dot” Blair Linderman, left, and Wyomia Blair, right

Dale Granger, nephew of Wyomia Blair and Dot Linderman, wrote: “ I sadly want to inform everybody of the death of Wyomia's sister Dorothy Blair Linderman. She passed away on Jan. the 16th from Alzheimer. It has been a rough time for Wyomia as they have been together most of their lives.

Wyomia’s health is not good. She has heart problems and the last week of Dot’s life she was having a hard time with Dot’s illness. She fell 6 times that week and her brain shut down...we thought we had lost her mentally for good. But after two weeks and a lot of prayers she is back to her old self except she has to use a walker.

Dorothy Blair Linderman Greenville

Dorothy Blair Linderman, 90, passed away Saturday, January 16, 2016.

Born in Greenville, she was a daughter of the late William and Bessie Davis Blair.

She was a graduate of Parker High School and retired from the Greenville Hospital System in 1989 after 36 years of service. She was a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

She is survived by her son, James A. Linderman, Jr.; grandson, James “Jack” A. Linderman, III; daughter-in-law, Nancy; sister, Wyomia Blair; and special nephew, Dale Granger, all of Greenville.

She was preceded in death by four brothers and one sister.

Visitation will be held Tuesday, January 19, 2016 from 12:00 – 1:15 p.m. at Thomas McAfee Funeral Home, Downtown followed by the Funeral Service at 1:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Burial will be at Graceland Cemetery, West.

Memorials may be made to the charity of one’s choice.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.thomasmcafee.com.

Harmony Gardens, Melrose, Scotland



The Berryfields O Blair

(sung by the Linlithgow song group
Sangschule)

by Belle Stewart (1906 - 1997)



When berry time comes roond each year
Blair's population's swelling,
There's every kind o picker there
And every kind o dwellin.
There's tents and huts and caravans,
There's bothies and there's bivvies
And shelters made wi tattie-bags
And dug-outs made wi divvies.

There's corner-boys fae Glesgae,
Kettle-boilers fae Lochee,
There's miners fae the pits o Fife,
Mill-workers fae Dundee
And fisherfolk fae Peterheid
And tramps fae everywhere
Aa looking fir a livin aff
The berry fields o blair

There's travellers fae the Western Isles,
Fae Arran, Mull and Skye;
Fae Harris, Lewis and Kyles o Bute,
They come their luck to try.
Fae Inverness and Aberdeen,
Fae Stornoway and Wick
Aa flock to Blair at the berry time
The straws and rasps to pick.

There's some who earn a pound or twa,
Some cannae earn their keep,
There's some wid pick fae morn till nicht,
And some wid rather sleep.
There's some wha has tae pick or stairve,
And some wha dinnae care,
There's comedy and tragedy
Played on the fields o Blair.

There's families pickin for one purse,
And some wha pick alane,
There's men wha share and share alike
Wi wives wha's no their ain.
There's gladness and there's sadness tae,
There's happy herts and sair,
For there's some wha bless and some wha
curse
The berry fields o Blair.

Before I put my pen awa,
It's this I would like to say:
You'll travel far afore you'll meet
A kinder lot than they;
For I've mixed wi them in field and pub
And while I've breath to spare,
I'll bless the hand that led me tae
The berry fields o Blair.



Words:

Berry time: time for seasonal work picking fruit

Bivvy: small tent or temporary shelter (from bivouac)

Blair: Blairgowrie, Perthshire

Bothy: temporary hut; living quarters for single men on a farm

Corner-boys: unemployed men hanging about the streets

Divvies: sods of earth, divots

Kettle-boilers: unemployed, stay-at-home men in Dundee

This song was brought to Sangschule by Gordeanna McCulloch, who told us about Belle Stewart and the berry fields of Blair – Blairgowrie in Perthshire – famous for its fields of soft fruit, especially raspberries, drawing seasonal workers from all over Scotland and beyond, as Belle's song describes. Her husband Alex owned fields himself in the fifties. There was a holiday atmosphere with old friends

and ready money, although the work was hard. When mechanical pickers were introduced, the party was over.

Sheila Stewart tells us in *Queen Among The Heather* that “The Berryfields of Blair” was written one Hogmanay at the request of Belle’s brother, Donald. After its success in the family, Belle was required to write a new song for every Hogmanay.

It was this song that led to the "discovery" of its writer, Belle Stewart. Hamish Henderson, of the School of Scottish Studies in Edinburgh, had asked Blairgowrie collector Maurice Fleming to look out for this song amongst the travellers picking in the berry fields. Maurice found Belle and the Stewart family, and sent for Hamish, who said that recording amongst the travellers there was “like holding a tin can under Niagara Falls.” (*Tocher: tales, songs, traditions* No. 43)

Born in a bow tent beside the river Tay near Caputh, Belle experienced all the prejudice from the settled community that travellers were likely to meet at the time, but from her middle age, her recognition as a tradition bearer saw her receive international acclaim, and even a medal (the BEM) from the other Queen.



Belle Stewart was the matriarch of the musical Stewart travelling family in her

day and became well-known in the folk music revival of the 60s and 70s as one of Scotland’s finest traditional singers and foremost amongst “the Stewarts o Blair”. Her first solo album was aptly called *Queen Among The Heather*, after one of her best-loved songs, as is the biography written by her daughter, Sheila Stewart. (*Queen Among The Heather: the life of Belle Stewart* by Sheila Stewart)



Photo of Scottish Traveller’s tent homes such as that of Belle Stewart and her family, from the book “Belle Stewart, Queen Among the Heather” by Belle Stewart’s daughter Sheila Stewart.

One can hear Belle singing The Berryfields of Blair at the following site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qhK0hEeTpoQ>

+++++

Blair Inquiry from a Member

[Norma Blair Gilmore] emailed Helen Blair last Nov. about James Blair from Arizona., because there are not many Blair’s who are part Indian. She suggested that I contact you. I am from the Alexander Blair-Elizabeth Cochran line. My Uncle, Charles Blair, son of James Alexander and Williamina Kate Blair, went to Ok. and met a beautiful Indian lady with beautiful black hair and married her in Waggoner, Oklahoma. Their son was born on Dec.1,

1901 and she died in childbirth. His name was Vernon Clyde Blair. About 15 months later, Charles took his son, Vernon, to his parents so that his mother could take care of the baby. They were in Westwood, Rapid River Township, Kalkaska County, Michigan then. After James Alexander died in April, 1917, Willi Kate, son Glen sold the farm and moved into the town of Mancelona, Michigan along with Vernon. When Vernon was 18 or so, he left on the 8 p.m. train and went West. His father, Charles, had married again, a lady name Maude, and they lived in Long Beach area. He went to California and we never knew whether he married or not or whether he had any children or not. We thought he was probably irresponsible. That is why I wondered if that Blair was related to him. About 1935 he came through Mancelona with a woman and was selling Hoover Sweepers. He stopped, had a Buick car, and spent a few hours with my Dad, Glen, also saw cousins Lula and Bertie, gave my Mother, Olive, a repossessed Hoover Sweeper, then left town. He ended up in later years, single, in the Wallace-Kellogg, Idaho area and is buried in that cemetery. When he was ready to apply for Social Security, he contacted me because he thought that I was the only one alive that would know his birth date and place. He was so surprised that he was an "Okie." He said that he had always looked down on them and here he was one. He, as I said, was so talented in playing musical instruments that in his Idaho days he played piano, etc. in that Idaho area.

I live in Montana now and one year I was driving over to the Seattle area. I stopped in the Wallace-Kellogg area and they told me where he was buried. I went to the cemetery and there was just the gravesite, no tombstone. No Blair that I ever knew that died had never had a tombstone. I returned to Montana and later that summer, drove to Michigan. My Mother's neighbors were [owners of] the funeral home so they sold me a tombstone,

engraved it, put it on the floor of the backseat of my car and I drove it to Montana and a few months later drove to visit cousin, Joyce Blair Witchell, in the Seattle area. I dropped the tombstone off and 10 days later, when returning to Montana, I stopped. They had put the tombstone in its place. Everyone in those 2 towns were so happy about it, it made me feel good because they were so appreciative. So, I had wondered if the James Blair in the November Blair Bruidhinn could have been a son of his. Helen said that you would be the person to contact about Vernon, but did not think that this James was related to Vernon. Norma Jean Blair Gilmore P.O. Box 955, Hamilton, MT. 59840 ngilmore@cybernet1.com

Norma accomplished many wonderful feats in her lifetime, including being the first woman hired as a Director. of Special Education in a Board of Cooperative Educational Services in CO and the oldest SPED [Special Education] Director to retire at 78. Norma

If anyone has further information for Norma about her search, please contact her at ngilmore@cybernet1.com



The 18th Annual Grandfather Mountain Gaelic Song and Language Week will be held this year from July 3, 2016 until July 8, 2016 at Lees-MacRae College in Banner Elk, North Carolina. The week consists of

Scottish Gaelic language and song classes for all – from complete beginners to advanced speakers. The song classes will cover a range of traditional Gaelic song forms. You don't need to be fluent in Gaelic to learn Gaelic songs! Instructors this year will be Mairi MacInnes, Catriona Parsons, and Joanne MacIntyre. Mairi is from the island of South Uist, Cartriona is from the Isle of Lewis, and Joanne is from Cape Breton, Nova Scotia. They are all excellent singers with CDs to their credit. Catriona taught Gaelic at Dartmouth College, St. Francis Xavier University, and Cape Breton University. Joanne is a certified public school teacher and she teaches Gaelic at Dalbrae Academy in Inverness County, Cape Breton. The workshop ends just as the Grandfather mountain Highland Games are getting underway down the road at MacRae

meadows on Grandfather Mountain. As usual there will be a Gaelic tent at the games, and the North Carolina Gaelic Mòd (a Gaelic song competition) will take place there on the Saturday. The cost of room and board and instruction for the week are very reasonable, so come and join in the fun! For additional information, see our website at

<http://www.acgamerica.org/events/grandfather-mountain/info/>. To register for the week you can go to

<http://www.acgamerica.org/events/grandfather-mountain/2016-gfm-reg/>



Photos of Scotland including Blairgowrie, above....



Prices as of 8-12-2015

Clan Blair Store Order Form
WWW.CLANBLAIR.ORG

7516 E. Hermosa Vista Dr
Mesa, Arizona 85207-1110

Email
clanstore@clanblair.org

ITEMS	Member	Non-Member	Quantity	Spec.	TOTAL U.S \$\$
Blairfin III - soft cover book	\$18.00	\$25.00			
The Blairs of Balthayock and Their Cadets 1150-1850- soft cover book	\$33.00	\$40.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Cap Badge from Art Pewter	\$18.00	\$33.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Kilt Pin from Art Pewter	\$18.00	\$33.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Necklace/Pendant with chain from Art Pewter	\$22.00	\$40.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Key Fob from Art Pewter	\$18.00	\$32.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Lapel Pin from Art Pewter	\$18.00	\$26.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Cuff Links from Art Pewter	\$25.00	\$40.00			
Clan Blair of Blair Crested Belt Buckle from Art Pewter	\$45.00	\$65.00			
Metal lapel pin - painted Clan Blair of Blair badge	\$5.00	\$7.00			
Short Sleeved, T-shirt with <i>single Blair of Blair Crest</i> —or— <i>Double Crest</i> .——— WHITE or BLUE Specify- S- M- L- XL- 2XL- 3XL limited quantities	\$13.00	\$20.00			
Long Sleeved- Mock Turtleneck with large Blair of Blair Crest— WHITE or BLUE Specify-S- M- L- XL- 2XL- 3XL limited quantities	\$19.00	\$24.00			
Long Sleeved, T-shirts with Double Crest .——— WHITE or BLUE Specify-S- M- L- XL- 2XL- 3XL limited quantities	\$19.00	\$24.00			
White Polo with embroidered Blair of Blair badge - Medium only	\$18.00	\$20.00			
Stationary-8pk notes & envelopes with Blair tartan ————— (Specify- Westie- Dancer- Piper- Heather- Thistle- CBS) all with Blair tartan	\$8.00	\$15.00			
TARTAN-Ancient Blair WOOL 13oz med.weight 56 in wide	\$60/yd	\$95/yd			
TARTAN- Modern Blair WOOL-13oz. med.weight 56 in wide	\$60/yd	\$95/yd			
TARTAN- Dress Blair WOOL-13oz. med.weight 56 in wide. The official Blair Dress tartan, based on the Modern tartan with white stripes	\$60/yd	\$95/yd			
TARTAN- Ancient Blair COTTON TWILL, 58in wide	\$20/yd	\$35/yd			
Duck billed white Caps with Blair of Blair Coat of Arms- embroidered, limited amt.	\$12.00	\$18.00			
We have some left over wool Tartan in the Ancient and a Dress Blair based on the Ancient tartan with white stripes- limited amount- call/email to verify	\$48/yd	\$85/yd			
DVD of Blair House near Dalry , Scotland before the estate & contents were sold	\$20	\$20			
<i>Contact me for the amount of postage needed for total order.</i>				S/H	
<i>We accept PayPal, money orders or checks made out to Clan Blair Store</i>				TOTAL	

Postage is calculated individually depending upon how fast you need the items.

Most items are shipped in flat rate boxes through US Post Office but I try to find the best deal through USPS.com
Contact Helen Blair—480-807-4024, clanstore@clanblair.org, 7516 E. Hermosa Vista Dr. Mesa, AZ 85207-1110

Clan Blair Society Executive Board

Chairs of Standing Committees

February 2016

Jim Blair - President

7200 S Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
303 795-9754

President@clanblair.org

Shawn Blair - Vice President

682 County Rd
Acton, ME 04001
207 619-0494

Weblaird@clanblair.org

Frances Holt - Secretary

15928 Loncrest Drive
Hacienda Heights, CA 91745
626 330-1034

Secretary@clanblair.org

Ann Fredline - Treasurer

12001 W. Armga Drive
Boise, Idaho 83709
208 344-0286

Treasurer@clanblair.org

High Commissioner

Curtis Blair
1310 McArthur Ave.
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
719 578-8095

CBSClantent1@clanblair.org

Shawn Blair - Webmaster

Address – see above

Weblaird@clanblair.org

Charles Diman - Membership

3413 Sunnybrook Drive
Charlotte, NC 28210-4715
980-254-2743

Clanmembership@clanblair.org

NC Commissioner email:

cndiman@carolina.rr.com

Helen Blair - Clan Blair Store

7516 E. Hermosa Vista Dr.
Mesa, AZ 85207-1110
480 807-4024

Clanstore@clanblair.org

Adoree Blair – Blair Bruidhinn

Newsletter Editor
7200 S Prince Street
Littleton, CO 80120
303 798-3881

Bruidhinn@clanblair.org

Leslie Blair Gallagher -

Public Relations
5532 Mansfield Ct.
Colorado Springs, CO 80918
720 201-3128

Publicrelations@clanblair.org

Vacant - Clan Blair Library

CBSlibrary@clanblair.org

Coy Blair - Blair Genealogy Blairlin

1011 16th St.
Auburn, NE 68305
402 274 - 9846

CBScenea@clanblair.org

Nominating Committee:

Shawn Blair, ME
Pat Risdon, Laingsburg, MI
Kurt Blair, CO*

Leslie Blair Gallagher, CO

Nominations@clanblair.org

Clan Blair Scotland Trip

Dick Holt
322 Aoloo Street PH3
Kailua, HI 96734
808 263-5856

ScotlandTrip@clanblair.org

CBS State Commissioners see:

www.clanblair.org/commissioners
(For Members)

CLAN BLAIR SOCIETY

Charles Diman
3413 Sunnybrook Drive
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210-4715



Address Service Requested

First Class Mail

