



The Bee Line

Clan Fergusson Society of North America



Summer 2021 Commemorating 49 years of CFSNA Issue No. 155 \$7.00

WE ARE BACK!



Ancestry and the DNA Project



DNA

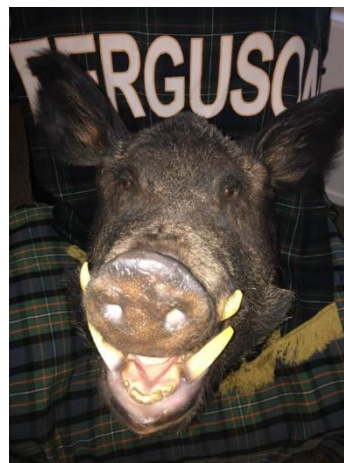
Flowers of Forest

Clan Fergus in North of Scotland



John Ferguson with heavy athletic competitor Steve Cornelius

Introducing Boaris Ferguson, our new mascot.



AGM
News
2021
Stone Mountain,
Georgia

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Announcements

PASSWORDS

CFSNA Website (www.cfsna.net) Member's Area:

Scot#Fest21

CFSNA Email Communications

If the Society does not have your email address on file, or you think that the current address on file is out of date, please send your information to secretary@cfsna.net. This way you will not miss receiving "late breaking" CFSNA news, and other information that happens between issues of *The Bee Line*.

The Bee Line Production Cycle

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Articles Due</u>	<u>Draft to Contributors For Revisions</u>	<u>Revisions Due From Contributors</u>	<u>Date to Printer</u>	<u>Mail Out Date</u>
Winter	Jan 1	Jan 7	Jan 10	Jan 14	Jan 21
Spring	Apr 1	Apr 7	Apr 10	Apr 14	Apr 21
Summer	Jul 1	Jul 7	Jul 10	Jul 14	Jul 21
Fall	Oct 1	Oct 7	Oct 10	Oct 14	Oct 21

CLAN FERGUSSON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

For the positions of

Assistant to the Secretary, CFSNA	The Bee Line Editor, Assistant
Regional Vice-President, Region I	Conveners, All Regions
Regional Vice-President, Region 12	

For more information, please contact the CFSNA President
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Message from the CFSNA Executive Committee.



Eric C. Ferguson
CFSNA President



Kim Ferguson
Senior Vice
President



Mark Ferguson
Secretary



Martain Ferguson
Treasurer



Billy Ferguson
Past President

Welcome, to our new members! We have several new applications as well as returning members renewing their subscriptions. We repeat, you are important to us in keeping our society alive, strong and growing.

2021 is here and we are still waiting for the Covid pandemic to be totally over. We have been stepping out and getting back to normal. You can see the article regional reports WE ARE BACK. Well, it's about halfway there, we had a slow start in first quarter or so of the year.

The executive committee has voted to hold our AGM at the Stone Mountain Highland Games near Atlanta, GA on Oct 16, 2021. The organizers are anxious to get the festival going and the clans back together again, and the Fergusons have a strong attendance there. It is where our last AGM was in 2019 and it was fun. See the AGM information page.

The Fergus Scottish Festival in Ontario, and the Seaside Scottish Festival in California canceled so those two can no longer be AGM choices. We are fully aware that the Fergusons out in the West Coast and Midwest areas would like to have the AGM closer, so we are forecasting our 2022 AGM for Grand Father Mountain NC for 2022 (because of our 50th anniversary) and our 2023 AGM likely Tucson Arizona with the assistance of RVP Trevor Ferguson.

President Eric Ferguson would like to draw attention to our Clan Society's 50th anniversary which will be coming up July 2022. Grandfather Mountain would be a good venue for our Golden anniversary as it was the location where our Clan Society was first formed, in 1972, along with many other of the North American Scottish Clan Societies. It would be nice to honor our Life Member, John R. Ferguson, NC for all the years he has convened for the Fergussons.

We want to thank all our convenors and our members for standing ready for when this Covid is over and finally to go out and enjoy the Scottish festivities. There will likely be a handful of festivals available to attend in the fall but call before you go for last minute possible closings due to Covid news. We do want our members to be safe and wearing a mask is always suggested. You can do what President Eric Ferguson does, have a favorite Ferguson Tartan mask or a "Grumpy Old Veteran" mask. 😊



Sandy Harvey Wunderlich



Sandy sent this picture of her beautiful mask of Ferguson tartan.

A Message from the President



Slàinte Mhath, Fellow CFSNA Clansmen and Clanswomen:

It continues to be a great honor for me to be the President of the Clan Fergusson Society of North America. I am truly humbled to have the opportunity to serve this great Clan and most certainly the most ancient Scottish **Clan** in history!

First, I want to say I reached out by sending a letter to Sir Adam Fergusson via mail on presuming he will take over as Clan Chief. I am sure he has formalities and legal items in Scotland concerning it. So, I will inform you all upon

hearing anything.

Many of us have returned to manning tents at festivals. I was one of them at the Scottsbluff Celtic Festival. Like seemingly 70 percent of the time the wind did not cooperate, but I had fun anyway. It has been a long time I got to see pipers and drummers play. I was in the local paper in the clan march.

There will be some visible changes soon concerning the CFSNA website. We have had some issues on upkeep and version control. Just like your machine at home we must patch it up and hope it don't mess things up. Thankfully, Marc Ferguson our IT person got things back in order.

For those of you who do not know or are relatively new, we do provide scholarships. It's an important part of our nonprofit status. If you know someone who would need sponsoring and who is preferably close to the Clan Fergusson, please bring it up to our attention to fill out an application.

The AGM is on at Stone Mountain. It will be relaxed this year so it will be in the open outdoors and hopefully at a covered picnic area. We will have a business meeting with Execs and officers in the morning and AGM in the afternoon. After that we will bring in catered food. The exact times depends on the schedules of the Stone Mountain. We will make that announcement. Make your reservations soon at the Hilton as advertised on the Stone Mountain website. I already have. We will not have a banquet but a picnic like environment. Stone Mountain organizers have a banquet in the evening for those who are interested.

I went to the 100 th Oregon Trail parade in Gering Nebraska. It is the oldest ongoing parade in the state. It was exceptionally good. Lots of exhibits of how our ancestors came from the east to here. Can you imagine riding in a wagon with a mule? For 1700 miles? On the hot prairies? That is the way it was for my 3rd and 4th grand daddies.



Clan Fearghuis gu bràth! ("Long live Clan Fergus")

Eric C. Ferguson, Pres. CFSNA

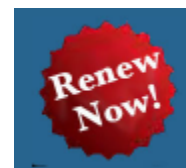
Membership Report for Bee Line Summer 2021 Issue No 155

It is our great pleasure to share the names of the new members who have joined the society since the last report in the Spring 2021 issue.

3328	Robert Ferguson	Timmins Ontario Canada
3329	Holly N Smith	Hedgesville WV
3330	Billy Rowell	San Antonio TX
3331	John McIvo	Maryville TN
3332	Amanda Mills	Hollywood AL
3333	Nancy Swarr	Strasburg PA
3334	Richard Ferguson	Albertville AL
3335	Faith Stuck	Sheridan OR
3336	Lynsey Parsons	Big Spring TX
3337	Katharine Ferguson	Sebring FL

Please join us in welcoming these new Clans folk to our Society and wishing them a long, happy and fulfilling membership experience. If you never noticed before, the membership number is the membership count of past and present members.

Reminder that membership dues were due at the end of year 2020. We really do appreciate your faithfulness to our society. Frankly, we could not make it if not for every one of you.



Please go to this link <http://cfsna.net/dues-options> to renew the dues.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THOSE WHO ALREADY RENEWED!!!!

A NOTE TO OUR NEW MEMBERS. We are behind in issuing the membership certificates because of the passing of Sir Charles. We will be issuing newer made certificates, plus we had to order new items which unfortunately is taking a long time, but we will get them issued sometime soon.

AGM NEWS

SAVE THE DATE! AGM OCTOBER 15-17, 2021



They're back! Please mark your calendars for the AGM in October Stone Mountain Highland Games and Scottish Festival in Atlanta. We will pass along information regarding other Highland events as we receive confirmation!

TBD Business meeting at 11 am. 4 pm AGM. 5:30 catered dinner 8:00pm SMHG banquet.

RESERVE YOUR ROOM NOW AT THE SPONSORED HOTEL, THE HILTON. Big Discount while available.

WE ARE BACK! REGIONAL NEWS

Region 2

A wonderful tent display at Celtic Faire at the Genesee Country Village and Museum in New York State by Robbin Zaleski. Great to see those Fergusons in New York get involved.

Robbin Zaleski



REGION III.

DODDRIDGE

Doddridge County holds inaugural Mountain State Scottish and Celtic Gathering



David Brandt Ferguson RVP 3 gets a TV interview on Channel 12 WBOY. David does a great job of representing the Fergusons usually 3 or 4 Fests a year. And he brings his family with him.

Doddridge County holds inaugural Mountain State Scottish and Celtic Gathering | WBOY.com



(left) Buck Ferguson who is David's (above) father always looks good in the kilt. And works the tents. He is a pleasure to know.

I believe this is in Friend Maryland.



David Lee Ferguson



May 17 · 🌐



Bill Ferguson and family. Bill and me share a family line, although distant, but family!



David Ferguson at the SMOKEY MOUNTAIN SCOTTISH FESTIVAL. May 15 -16 2021

Maryville College, Tennessee. We received new members thanks to David's Tent display!!!

Grandfather Mountain July

Meet Steve Cornelius (left) with John Ferguson. Steve Cornelius is a heavy athlete champion and will be joining the Fergusons. Isn't that great! And look at their kilts, looking sharp. They attended the calling of the clans.



REGION - IV

Make plans for the AGM October Stone Mountain Atlanta Georgia



Please extend a warm welcome to new Region IV VP, Allen Jimenez!

Region IV RVP Allen Jimenez!

REGION - V

We are pleased to announce and EXCITED to be looking beyond 2020 and welcoming you all back September 17, 18 & 19 for SCOTFEST / Oklahoma 2021! Meet with Bernie at the Ferguson tent. He always has the best display. **Scotfest | Oklahoma** is an authentic celebration of Scottish and Celtic culture, primarily modeled after the 178-year-old Lonach Gathering, Scotland and the 189 year old Braemar Gathering, Scotland.

Will visitors get to see the Stone of Scone at Bernie's tent this year like a year ago???

Lisa Cady, RVP-V



Bernie Scieszinski shared a link.

June 8 · 🌐



OKSCOTFEST.COM



REGION -VI

11

SEP

Columbus Scottish Festival

Sat, Sep 11 – Sun, Sep 12

Bartholomew County 4-H Fairgrounds, 750 W 200 S

Columbus, IN



Mike Smith, RVP-VI

REGION - VII

Region VII and CFSNA mourns the passing of **Katherine Annie Griffiths** (see Flowers of Forest)

Region VII continues to be in the midst of the COVID_19 Pandemic and hope that our lives return to normal soon.

Please note that most Highland Games and Festivals are now cancelled or postponed in our Region for the 2021 Season. Let us hope that next year I may continue my tradition of listing all the Highland Games and Festivals in Region VII so that you might attend a Scottish function, next year!

Any ideas or volunteers for a Region Ceilidh? It has been over ten years since our last 'Region' Function! Any Ferguson news?

Have a good summer and let us hope we may all gather, next year!

The Fergus games were canceled but they are promoting a virtual festival. You can see at [Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games in Canada](#)

Yours Aye,
Steven M. Payson, RVP, Region VII.

REGION – IX

President Eric Ferguson convened a tent at the Scottsbluff Celtic Festival in Gering Nebraska. June 26th. He and his family had a great time considering the wind was a “blast”. You know the relentless winds of 20 or so mph. He tied his tent to a fence to keep it from blowing over. Eric also introduced, Boaris Ferguson to all those visitors to the tent.



Nora Leverson, RVP-IX
REGION - IX



W. Trevor Ferguson at the Flagstaff/Williams Arizona Celtic Festival! July 18th. Trevor always has great tent displays. AND THIS ONE IS HUGE! Well done, Trevor!!

Make your winter plans for the warmer temperatures in Prescott and Tucson and meet up with new RVP Trevor Ferguson. He always does a fine job representing the Fergusons in the Arizona area.



Prescott Area
Celtic Society,
Prescott Highland
Games & Celtic
Faire



September 24- 26, 2021 Pet Friendly

Fresno Games... is asking for a convener and Ferguson attendance.

My name is Mark Peterson and I am with the Fresno Scottish Society of Central California and we would like invite **Clan Fergusson to the Fresno Scottish Highland Games and Gathering Sept.18th, 2021** at Kearny Park in Fresno, CA If interested please let me know and will send you our Clan Tent registration form. Look forward to your reply. Mark Peterson



Andrew McMillan E-mail gc_mountainman@hotmail.com

Will Clan Fergusson attend the 3rd annual Gathering of the Clans Highland Festive in Sedgewick, Alberta on **21 August 2021**?? Contact Lyssa at the Flagstaff Scottish Club if you are able to attend.

Your tent would be greatly appreciated. The event website

is <https://www.flagstaffscottishclub.com/gotchf> I hope to see you there. Andrew.

Lisa Ferguson in Alberta will be able convening this festival. Please visit her there.

SCOTLAND

Baby Nyla Ferguson for the win.



EDINBURGHNEWS.SCOTSMAN.COM

Baby Nyla arrival makes Scots woman nation's only great-great-great-gran

Baby Nyla arrival makes Scots woman nation's only great-great-great-gran | Edinburgh News (scotsman.com)

You can check for more possible festival and games at this website.
Games by State - Association of Scottish Games & Festivals (asgf.org)

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→ ↺ [futurelearn.com/courses/ems-palaeography](https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/ems-palaeography)

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Travel back in time through Scottish history by examining early modern Scottish handwriting.

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10,689 enrolled on this course

CFSNA DNA Project is still looking for men who live in Scotland for DNA testing. These men we hope tested have a good understanding of their genealogy. That would assist DNA Project team to help identify where many of our ancestors came from.

There is a special emphasis on the yDNA of men in Scotland right now. Specifically, in the region of the borders and Ayrshire Scotland. There happens to be an exciting find with DNA links with matches between Jamie and George Ferguson. Jamie Ferguson currently resides in Manchester UK, but he has a long line of Scottish Fergusons. Long story made short because of the lengthy discussion, there is what is dubbed the “Royal Fergusons” in which a connection has been found with the **House of Wettin - the ancestral house of several European royal families, including the incumbent British House of Windsor.**

It will be noted the Big Y tester asked that his details were kept private. He is a member of the Ernestine Wettin line. He is a 36/37 match to a second sample of a deceased member of the Belgian royal household. They share a common ancestor in Francis, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld (1750-1806), the grandfather of both Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, the direct ancestors of Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom and Commonwealth countries.

We recently got a subscriber from Ayrshire and we want to thank him for being interested. The more the merrier.

For more contact with the DNA Project team you can email:

Alan Milliken at alanmill10@aol.com

By Eric Ferguson

So, I often get offers by Newspapers.com. But it is pricey. But I thought I would do the free trial. Now I hate to give it up.

I have found a lot of good information to include obituaries, small talk, and interesting juicy information about some of my past relatives. What I find interesting is in the newspapers especially small-town papers would have gossip type information, like so and so went to dinner, or Jim Ferguson checked into the hotel, and so on. I found a lot of information of some of my kin I did not know. So, I believe if you can afford it, it is a worthy supplement to your ancestry info.

I also tried Fold.com. I discovered through Fold.com of a relative was in a prisoner of war in Nazi Germany World War II captured in Italy. I also found my greats granddaddy Hezekiah Ferguson was a revolutionary soldier in the NY continental army. Another nice information center especially if your family has military history.

There are two stories of my Fergusons that I pretty much got confirmed through the newspapers.com. My gggfather James Ferguson was the first subscriber to the Gering Courier newspaper in 1887 the year of its founding and that he was a drummer. I have the sticks that he had but to confirm it he was written in the papers he participated as a color guards at local early American parades according to the paper news. I find it interesting that he bartered watermelons to pay for the newspaper subscription.



The Gering Courier (Gering, Nebraska) • 08 Sep 1887, Thu

sent about two months.

THE COURIER is making changes for the better right along. It will be observed that we have given you over a column more of reading matter this week.

Call at once and settle your account. We need the money and must have it. We befriended you in time of need now come to our rescue and settle your bills by cash or secured notes. Franklin & Garlock.

glad

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James Ferguson will please accept our thanks for a fine watermelon, which entered in the list for our premium of a year's subscription. Of course we won't tell the weight now, for yours may not weigh quite so much, and then you wouldn't bring it in. We think it will though. We can eat it anyhow.

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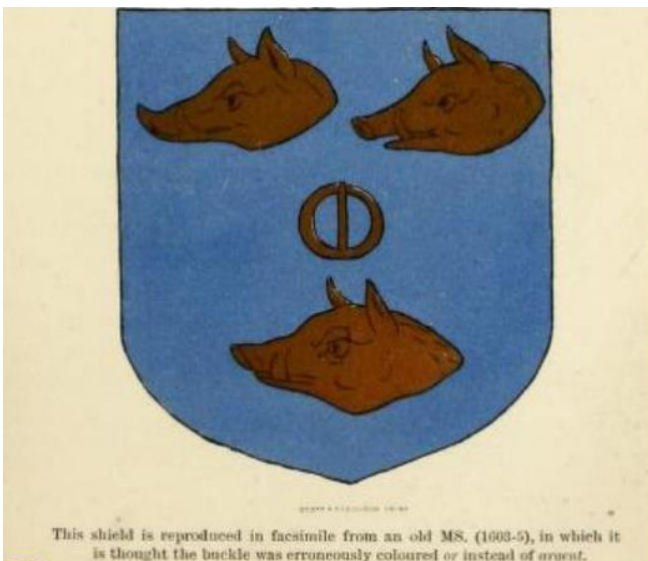
...

Please welcome Boaris Ferguson. He is our new mascot. By his picture you can tell he is a Boar. But what you cannot see is that he was about a 400 pounder. Boaris is being displayed at our Ferguson tents now. Along with him is the story that some of you may not heard, which comes from the Records of the Clan Ferguson, Fergusson.

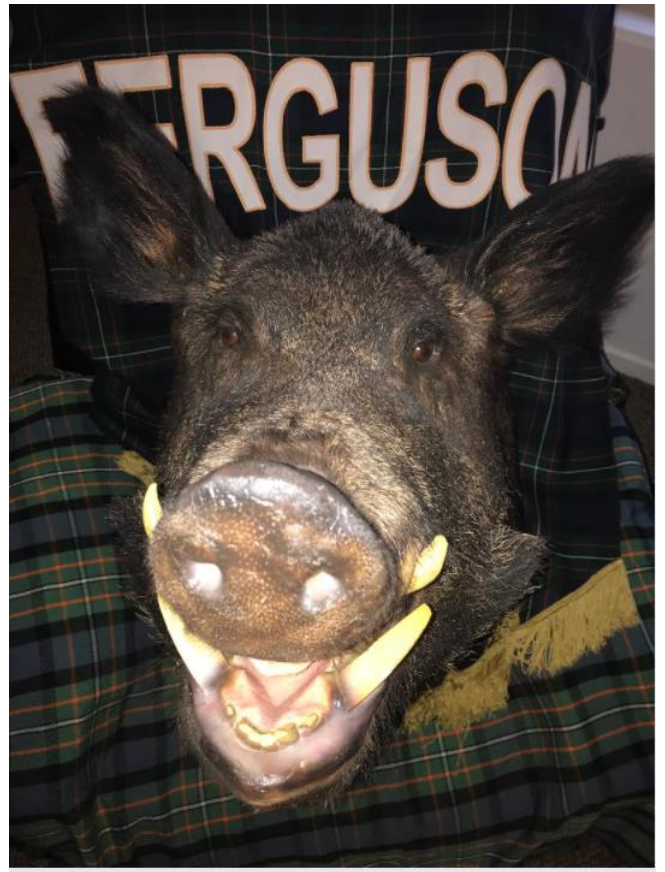
Page 510 Clan Ferguson

The arms of the Fergussons of Dunfallandy were the plain shield with the buckle and the three boars' heads ; the crest, a hand holding a dagger ; and the motto, Arte et Marte. Miss Fergusson of Dunfallandy states that the arms were under-stood to commemorate the fact that the last wild boar in Scotland was killed by a Fergusson

The Fergussons of Middlehaugh and Baledmund carry as their crest a hand holding a dagger, with the motto, Arte et Marte ; and the book-plate of the late Mr. S. R. Fergusson of Middlehaugh shows the azure shield with the three boars' heads and the buckle, surmounted by this crest, and with this motto below. We are indebted to Mr. Fergusson of Baledmund for the communication of a tradition that the dagger crest, and motto, Arte et Marte — 'By Skill and Valour ' — commemorate the slaying of a fierce wild boar in the days of King Fergus, who gave his daughter in marriage to a gallant youth of the same name who destroyed the savage animal with a skene or dagger, and from whom the Fergussons took their descent.



This shield is reproduced in facsimile from an old MS. (1603-5), in which it is thought the buckle was erroneously coloured or instead of argent.



Prayers for the hurt and healing.

Millie Slack

Billy Ferguson

Lolita Ferguson

Dwight Wendell Ferris

Colin Ferguson

Leanne Ferguson

Mary Anne Ferguson and her mother Pat

Melanie Constuble

Kilkerran Fergussons, comfort and prayers for the family due to the passing of Sir Charles.

Ken Ferguson of Helotes TX (Praise the Lord Ken is reporting to be doing very well!!)

Martain Ferguson is looking for a job no thanks to Covid situations. He is a great man and if anyone would like to help him out please do. Please keep him in your prayers.



Scotland book to relieve Covid stress

T.R. Gordon <alba@netdoor.com>

Greetings Fellow Scot,

With the crazy coronavirus crackdowns and travel restrictions, both in the USA and in Scotland, it's almost frightening to even leave the home.

But armchair travel is still very safe. That's why I've sent you this email.

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is T.R. Gordon. Several years ago I published a coffee table book entitled *Turas Troimh Alba* (Gaelic for "Journey Through Scotland") It's a beautiful collection of 170 color photographs with interesting, historical, and amusing text. I spent four years in Scotland, initially on assignment with the U.S. Marine Corps and later as a bicycle tour guide. My travels, primarily on single-track roads and away from the main thoroughfares, present a delightful view of the country and its people not often encountered by most visitors. I've had very favorable reviews ranging from *Scottish Life* magazine to the *Duke of Roxburghe*.

If you're like me, we need a dose of Scotland on a regular basis. I would invite you to visit my website to view a sampling of photos and stories from my book at www.scotlandphotobook.com If you like what you see, please order a copy for yourself and a friend.

Kindest regards,

T.R. Gordon

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

KATHERINE ANNIE GRIFFITHS



Katherine Annie Griffiths (nee Ferguson), June 19, 1926-May 3, 2001. Fortitude. If asked for a single word to describe a remarkable woman, fortitude would most definitely describe Katherine (Kay) Griffiths. With our sudden loss of Kay, we have lost not only a Mother, Grandmother, friend, and activist, but also someone who was a great source of grit, determination, strength and endurance. Kay was many things to many people, but most of all she was someone who constantly taught those around her how to question, explore and act to make the world a better place.

Katherine Annie Ferguson was born on June 19, 1926 in North Yarmouth Township (near St. Thomas, Ontario). She was the eldest daughter of the late A. J. and Rowena (Brown) Ferguson. Her siblings were Duncan (Betty), Rowena (George Jenkins), and David Ferguson whom she helped raise as her Mother was frail. She grew up on a dairy farm and was actively involved in all

things agriculture for her entire life. She graduated with a teaching certificate from the London Teacher's College and later from Knox College, Toronto as a "Deaconess", in 1957, at a time when women could not be ordained in the Church.

Kay taught elementary School and High School English in St. Thomas Ontario and the surrounding area for 18 years until she started the second stage of her life in Oxdrift, Ontario. Kay first met the man who would become her husband, Charlie Griffiths, in 1953 while on a Junior Farmer's exchange to Great Britain to see Queen Elizabeth II coronation. They were married on June 30, 1966 - the day after school finished for the year. While Kay never returned to teaching, she did spend over twenty years as a school board trustee and volunteered with many organizations including the Oxdrift Women's Institute, the Dryden & District Agricultural Society, Patricia Gardens, 4-H, the Conservative Party, and St. Luke's Anglican Church. Her passion was always to do things for others (she prepared, delivered and served tea parties at Patricia Gardens until she was 91), and she spent countless summers organizing Church camps for youth. Kay and Charlie had one child, Roger (Kelly) and three Grandchildren (Alison, Valerie and Charlotte). They consider themselves fortunate to have had a grandmother next door to visit every day to spend time baking, sewing, gardening, playing games and talking about fond memories and world events. Her greatest gift to the girls was to teach them strength of character and to believe in themselves. When asked for a piece of advice for a recent school project, Kay replied, "Take advantage of every opportunity that comes your way."

A Private Family Service and interment was held. Donations may be made to St. Luke's Anglican Church or a Local Charity of Choice through the Dryden Community Funeral Home, Dryden, Ontario.

A short remembrance from Kay's Nieces and Nephews:

"Always the teacher, Kay was full of advice, opinions, and instructions. She found students in her siblings, St. James Presbyterian Church Sunday School, 4-H, Pearce Williams Camp and as a teacher at S>S. #19 Southwold and Central Elgin Collegiate and then in the North with her community as a School Board Trustee, St. Luke's Anglican Church and her Family. Aunt Kay's expectations could be daunting, but it was because she could see your true potential and wanted you to rise to it. Kay was a life-long advocate of the agriculture industry. She led by example. I will forever be inspired by her activity and vigor. I remember calling her for a chat one November day when Aunt Kay would have been in her mid-eighties. She was telling me of a meeting she had just been to in Kenora, Ontario. The Minister of Agriculture was speaking at the meeting and Aunt Kay had questions. After the meeting, Aunt Kay said, 'I just marched up to the Minister

and asked him what he was going to do about.....'(issue affecting farmers).What a wonderful lesson- to remain active, engaged and use your voice through your entire life."



William Edwin Jones Jr.

December 25, 1921 - June 3, 2021

William E Jones, was a member of CFSNA since 1988, a long time member sadly has passed, his son Mike Jones reported his death to CFSNA. Much sympathy to the Jones family.

William E Jones, a member of CFSNA since 1988, a long time member sadly has passed, his son Mike Jones reports.

William Edwin Jones Jr, "Ed" to family and friends, son of the late William E and late Anna Lucille Hurtt Jones passed away June 3, 2021. Ed was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Elizabeth Wann Jones, brothers, Samuel C and Eugene V, and great grandson, Francisco J Hernande, Jr. He is survived by his sister, Nettie May Jones Goles; children Michael E Jones and Phyllis Berholz of Slidell, LA, Joyce (Martin) Shoemaker of Temple, TX. Also survived by six grandchildren, twelve great

grandchildren, five nieces and three nephews.

Growing up on a farm in Baltimore County, Maryland, Ed learned the skills of growing vegetables for market and the importance of work. His family owned a boat for recreation. He enjoyed fishing and often took siblings and cousins on hikes to the local fishing hole. His lifelong hobbies have been gardening, fishing, and boating. In addition, he also enjoyed woodworking and refinishing furniture. He was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, a member of the Martin's retirement group in Slidell, and belonged to Clan Ferguson. After leaving high school, Ed worked full time on the farm with his father and those hired to help in the fields. Just before his 18th birthday, he was hired by the Glen L Martin Co as an "office boy" making blueprints. While working he earned a Mechanical Engineering designation. He retired from Lockheed Martin in 1985 as Director of a lab at the Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, LA. During his tenure he worked on the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, and Space Shuttle programs.

On February 16, 1942, Ed and his father registered at the local draft board. Ed was inducted into the Army Air Corps on July 11, 1942. He served from July 25, 1942, at Ft. Lee, VA and was discharged on January 19, 1946, from Mitchell Field, New York. He served in maintenance in Yakima, Washington state and the Mohave Desert before being stationed at Pyote, TX. as a crew chief for bomber maintenance. Please visit www.honakerforestlawn.com

Late notice:

Please add **Georgine Ferguson** to the Flower Garden as she passed 1/6/17 and is not listed. She was past Region VI VP. From Tasha Ferguson Tashlynn5@cox.net

From CFSNA: We are so sorry to learn of Georgine's passing and we trust she enjoyed being with our society. Thank you, Tasha, for informing us. We seen no obituary. In our flower garden in heaven, she goes.

Clan Fergus in the north of Scotland

Part I of: THE LITTLE-KNOWN STORIES OF CLAN FERGUS
IN THE NORTH OF SCOTLAND.

By Malcolm John Ferguson Esq. FSA Scot.

I would like to share some stories, mostly extracted from my book “History out of Mystery–The Fergusons”.

Firstly, we need to correct an inaccuracy that has been perpetrated by clan historians over the past 1,000 years. That **Fergus Mor** was the first king of Scots. He was not and we will discuss this further on.

Confusion arose between two ancient kings named Fergus! The first King Fergus was erroneously listed as living 330BC, some wrote it 340AD others 420AD. They call him “mythical”. Not so, the Irish Annals list him as *Fergus, son of Ferehard*, half-brother to the Irish King. There was a Scottish settlement in Galloway and they were under attack by the Britons, the northern Welsh Kingdom in Ayr and Strathclyde, and called for Irish assistance. Fergus led a force that defeated & killed the British/Welsh King *Coel Hen*, or ‘Coel old’. Known to us as Old King Cole (Latin ‘Coilus’). The ancient Welsh Genealogies say “*King Cole the Splendid* drowned in a bog during the rout of his forces in the **year 420**. This battle, according to tradition, took place in the kingdom of Strathclyde.” Within that district is Kyle previously written *Cul*, a river named The Waters of Coyle, and the village of Coylton. The *Old Statistical Account* of 1798 says “*Coylton* derives its name from a King Coilus who was killed in battle in the neighbourhood and buried in the church of Coylton. **Fergus Loch** a mile or so west is supposed to take its name from **King Fergus** who camped there and defeated Coilus King of the Britons in the adjacent fields.” Another tradition locates his actual death and burial 4 miles further north. Within the grounds of Coilsfield House is located a field of battle and a burial mound of *Old King Coil*.” There is also a **Fergus Hill**. When locations are named after important men and events, they were not mythical. Having dealt with one King Fergus, now back to King Fergus Mor.

When the Scots “Scotti” from northern Antrim in Ireland enlarged their Kingdom of Dalriada onto the isles and mainland of Alba, now Scotland, it was accomplished under the leadership of three brothers, Lorn, Fergus and Angus. A poem of the genealogy of all the kings in Scotland was recited by a Bard at the Coronation of Malcolm III in 1058, a copy is maintained in Irish manuscripts. (Note: St Patrick **d.461**, Fergus Mor **d. circa 503**.)

Three sons of Erc the son of Eochy the joyous, Three who got the blessing of St. Patrick, Seized Alban; great was their courage, Lorn, Fergus, and Angus.

Ten years to Lorn, by which was renown, in the sovereignty of West Alban, After Lorn the generous and strong, Seven and twenty years to Fergus. Another translation says:

Three sons of Erc, the son of Eachach the great, the three got the blessing of Patrick; Possessed Alban the great likewise; Loarn, Fergus, and Aongus. Ten years Loarn flourished in the government of West Albany.

After Loarn a space likewise seven and twenty years Fergus. Domhangart, son of Fergus the great, etc.

The Scottish part of their Kingdom at that time was what is now roughly Argyll and Kintyre. **Lorn was the first King of Scots in Alba**. Logically this must be correct as their holdings were named after him, the senior person. The waters are called The Firth of Lorn, and the northern portion of Argyll is still named Lorn, from which the ancient territorial Lordship is still held by the Campbell heir as Marquis of Lorne. **Fergus Mor** his brother was the next king. I hope that clears up any misconceptions, as Loarn/Lorn had many descendants named Fergus and MacFergus / Ferguson.

The kingdom pushed north and north-east up the Great Glen. Lorn had a son named Fergus with a following of 60 houses! He was referred to as Fergus Salach and from him came the **Clan Fergus Salach**. Another of Lorn’s sons named Muredaig had a gt.gt. grandson named Fergus and through him springs the line of MacBeth and according to some 19thC historians probably Fergus MacAdie. Around 850 A.D during the Viking invasions the Cinel Lorn (Clan or kin of Lorn) made a push into the lands of the Northern Picts. Was it with this invasion into Moray that a family referred to as *MacFergus* came to settle in what became Inverness-shire, Nairn and Ross-shires?

Let’s take a look at some of the earliest extant records of our name relating to those counties. Firstly, remember the Gaelic name **Fearghuis** is pronounced *Fear’uis* the gh being silent. So we get the English written names, Ferris, Ferres, Ferries even later as Fergie, Feargie, Forgie and some older spellings as Feres, Phires, Pheres and Fery. With **MacFhearghuis** both the Fh and gh are quiet and it is pronounced *Mac’erish* so we have the near Gaelic sounding

MacKerras, MacErras, MacIrish, MacKerwyss, MacKerris etc. When written in Latin it became Fergusii, then to English, Ferguson. Fergusson, Fergusoun, Fargueson, Fergusone and when a family moved north into Dornoch from Tain/Fearn the clerk wrote it as Furgeson, Furgurson etc so we have numerous variant spellings in the north. Even more were added in the new world.

A chart in the Aberdeen Library shows the Highland (Perthshire/Atholl) Clan Chief as “**Fergusson of Dunfallandy** descended from “**Adam, Fergusson or MacKerras**”. One English, one almost Gaelic spelling. He already held lands there before receiving Charters from King John Balliol 1292-1296.

The **MacKerras** Family site states most MacKerras’s in the world today seem to originate in Moray with some from Argyll (the Strachur Fergusons). The writer also quotes The Scots Peerage Vol 8 pp 242-243 Gilbert, Earl of Strathearn d. **1223** had sons Robert & **Fergus** the latter died about **1247** and as the Earls held lands in Strachur and in Strathspey, part of Moray, he or a nephew of the same name could be the source for the MacKerras/ MacFergus’ in Moray.

There are numerous other possibilities for the beginnings of the name & Clan in Moray and Ross.

King Aonghus MacFhearghuis High King of Picts 732-761 A.D. held all the land from the Borders to the Orkneys. 742 A.D. **St. Fergus** founded a church in Angus and moved throughout the North of Scotland up to Caithness.

Remember the clergy of those times did marry and have families, ‘Fergus’ sons’.

1232 **Gillemichael MacAth** (forebear of **Fergus MacAdie** of Balmacruchie, Chief of Clan Aidh in Strathardle in 1358) exchanged part of his lands in Strathardle, Perthshire for some in Strathspey. Fergusons are found there.

1263 **Sir Fergus of Ardrossan** was granted lands near Dingwall.

Other listings in Inverness & Ross (Moray) are:

1414 Martin McFery on an inquest of lands. (Dunmaglas, StrathNairn) *The Cawdor Records*.

1456 Cristina MakFery of Inverness sold the town a piece of land. *Invernessiana*.

Two Ferguson priests moved to Ross to take up appointments in the five new Canons or Prebendaries of St. Duthac’s in Tain, established by King James III in **1487**. One **Sir Finlay Fergusson** died **1515** leaving sons.

There are numerous mentions of those bearing variants of MacFergus as their name, but for space constraint I will list only a few from each century. Remember also that Ferguson is a patronymic, taken from the name of the father or a patrilineal ancestor. In the Gaelic a daughter did not use Mac, *son*, but NicFergus or Nighean Mhic Fergus meaning daughter or daughter of the son of Fergus. Later we will relive the story of **Catriona Nic Fhearguis** from Contin.

1515 Sir Thomas Fergusson was Chaplain of Cambuscurrie. Sir Thomas **Fergusson** died there in 1547/1550. The first use of the single ‘S’ in our name in Ross.

1541 King James V granted a remission to **Finlay M’Ferquhersoun**, (a lowlander’s poor attempt at spelling a Highland name) Two centuries later, spelling errors cause two men to all but disappear, **Ferguson** becomes **Farquharson** before reverting to the correct spelling after four years.

1568-1574 Thomas Fergusoun was the ‘Reader’ (Minister) in the Church of Tain.

Around this time period I propose the **Fergusons** and **MacAdies** in GlenShee and Strathardle joined their overlord Gordon, Earl of Huntly, in supporting then opposing Mary Queen of Scots. Having lost and being “*broken men*” a landless clan, they fled to other areas for safety. Some to their namesakes in Atholl, some to Aberdeenshire, both afterwards always referred to as *MacAdi Fergusons*. Some Ferguson & MacAdams to lands of their neighbours Baron Reid of Straloch and Baron Spalding of Ashintully. Others followed Gordon to the North. I would like to demonstrate this by the records.

1574 William Fergusson, Surgeon, witnessed a Charter at Chanonry of Ross.

1584 Thome Fergusoun Burgess (Merchant) in the Royal Burgh of Tain with partners conclude several contracts for lands in Tain and Fearn under Charters of the Great Seal. Shortly after the Ross family lands of Meikle Rhynie in Fearn containing Ballablair were transferred to Thomas Ross & his heirs. From there to the **Fergusons of Balblair**. The Ross and Ferguson families had always remained close.

Now within the next decade some strange events occur in Fearn.

1592/4 David Fergusone, Merchant in Tain, (and Fearn), *takes part in a foray of broken men* kin of Ross of Balnagowan. Was he leading Clan Fergus of Ross on Morangie’s raid in Fearn? See the following.

1596 Johnne McAd (McAdie) in Fearn recorded as a follower of Ross of Morangie. (Black) RPC.v p.304

1596 John McChaddy (McAddie) and others in Fearn were denounced for oppression.

1599 John Fergusone, Burgess in Tain, gives a ‘caution’ (pronounced kayshun) of £500 not to harm David Urquhart of Inverathie (Inverethie). *A bond usually given by a Chief for his clansmen*.

[**1592/4 David Fergusone**, Merchant in Tain and Fearn takes part in a foray of broken men, kin of George Ross of Balnagowan, Chief of Clan Ross. (Ed. Here is part of a relationship with the family of Walter Ross of Morangie, second son of Ross of Balnagowan that continued for over 100 years. Sir Thomas Fergusoun from 1515 held the chaplaincy of Cambuscurry on the northern boundary of Tarlogie which is opposite Morangie. From 1547 he held the prebend of Morangie. MJF)]

1593. Jhone (sic) **Fergusone**. “Ane burrow cort of tane halden within ye tolbuith yr of 1593. Walter Ros of Moirynchie (Morangie) provost of Tane”.... “producit ane precept of ye provest and baillies”... “indorset be (endorsed by, lists here all Bailies including) **Jhone Fergusone** to pass upon ye serving persons of inquest (ie; jury)” Then lists all the lands including “**miln of Aldie** callit Dovne”.....“**charter maid be Marioune.... air to umqh’ll Alexr Ros of Litill Allane...** to umqu’ll George Keith. That day ye persones of inquest notwithstanding nae objection made...**reffusis to serve Gavin Keith.**” *Number B 941 page372

*“**Old Ross-shire Scotland from Tain & Balnagowan Documents**” By W.MacGill BA. Pub by Northern Counties Newspapers & Printing & Publishing Co Ltd 1909.

1602 “Tayne. Ovir **Millis of Aldie** in feue to Wa. Innes.....Witnesses Alexr Ross, Provost of Tayne, **JOHN FERGUSONE** Bailie, **DAVID FERGUSSONE**” (one of “ye counsell”) *No 136

(Bailie, a municipal Magistrate, an alderman hence John is mentioned in records as a Magistrate. David was listed as one of the Councillors. One Ferguson spelt with a single ‘S’ the other two)

1602 Tayne. Document “Witness, **Bailie JOHN FERGUSON.**” * 15B

1606 *Industry, Commerce & Communication Part 167.**No 423 ‘Burgesses & Inhabitants of Tayne’. **DAVID FERGUSONE** Merchandis. Plus a listing of 38 others; accused “Thomas Adamson, Walter Ross of Moranshie, Alexr Hay, Hector Douglas, John Corbat, Andrew Urso, John Forrester, John McCulloch, **JOHNE FERGUSONE**, Wm Thomson, John Cuik, heritors & feuers of the Myln of Over Aldie.” *The latter were spoken against for compelling people to use their mill. Was Thomas Adamson the Anglicising of MacAddie from 1596? The editor noted those listed “were all farming and raising crops. In fact..... the very names recited occur in charters of the period as holding arable lands.”*

1606-1660 The Sasine Records list:

BESSIE FERGUSON spouse of **JOHN ROS**, Burgess in Tain, (who was Ross of Aldie. And her father was Bailie John Fergusoun, ed.) and some years later another Bessie;

ELIZABETH, (BASIE) daughter of **JOHN FERGUSSOUN** Merchant in Tain, spouse of Henry Urquhart, son of Alexander W. Urquhart of Bellacherrie. (Ed. Her brother was **JOHN FERGUSONE yr. of Balblair**)

1633-1634 Aldie.3/10 parts over Mill of Aldie “to **JOHN FERGUSON** proprietor of same, to same” 1/3 share

1643 Inquest. “Retours for Andrew Ross in the lands of his grandfather Andrew, who was almost if not quite a centenarian. Bailie **JOHN FERGUSONE**.....witnesses.” *No937

1643 On April 25th the heirs-portioners were served of their Uncle **JOHN FERGUSONE younger** legitimate son in the **lands of Balblair**. Again on “June 15th **1658, BESSETA (ELIZABETH or BESSIE) FERGUSONE sister;** MARGARET FORRESTER, JOHN and GIRSELL URQUHART, sister’s children, were served as **heirs-portioners of JOHN FERGUSONE younger**, their mothers brother, in the **toune and lands of Balblair, with the ailhous and ailhouscrofts**, within the Abbacie of Ferne now Barronie of Gaynes (Geanies), Paroche of Tarbit, formerly sherefdome of Innernes, now of Ros.” Retours of Heirs.

The Scottish Antiquary, or Northern Notes and Queries Vol.5 No 17 (1890) pp36. Lists

The Ross Family,

1651 “**ANDREW ROSS PROVOST OF TAIN** --- 1. Andrew Ross (paternity not stated) styled ‘burgess of Tain’ in Sasines 1624-26, “provost” 1627-38, ‘sometime provost’ Sasine 26th May 1640. Died 4th Oct 1660 (*Kal. of Ferne*) married first Margaret Ross, charter to her, his spouse, of a liferent in the lands of Wester Catboll (Sasine 21st April **1630**), and again, **7th August 1651**, of part of the lands of **Mikill Allane**, which he had acquired by **charter from James, grandson and heir of John Ferguson, burgess of Tain.**” Here we have the **Fergusons owning Meikell Allan** as well as **Balblair**.

“Andrew Ross Provost of Tain may have been son of Thomas, Abbot of Ferne (see Morangie Line) burgess of Tain1608, therefore born in or before 1587.” (Ed. *Meikle Allan translates the big meadow.* MJF)

Northern Notes and Queries Vol. 4, No. 15 (1890), pp. 102-11. Lists,

The Ross Family. Line of Little Tarrell

Page 107

“Also confirmation of charter under the *Great Seal* 3rd July 1637, by John, Bishop of Ross, to the same effect. ‘**John Ross of Aldie**, sometime styllit Bone (*Boness?*) uncle of Hugh Ross of Cunlich’ (Sasine 4th May 1654). He **married Bessie, daughter of John Ferguson, Baillie of Tain, ‘his spouse,’ 31st October 1626.** They had,
liv.(#54) John. (*See below.*)”

Page 109

“**lxxii.**(#72) Donald, **married Bessie, daughter of John Ferguson, baillie of Tain.** They had,”

“**lxxiii.** John, who married ____ __, daughter of Alexander Ross, Baillie of Tain, and had,

lxxiv. Donald, who married ____ __, daughter of Alexander Munro of Daan and had,

lxxx. Donald, etc.”

Another two generations of John Fergusons and two generations of Bessie Fergusons!

The Records tell us all the churches in Tain and Fearn had become Protestant in **1560** under Provost Nicolas Ross, in fact 29 Parishes of Ross did so when he voted in Parliament that year. The Sassunach thinking or knowledge was a bit behind the times when 100 years later:

1659 3rd June. **The Bailies of Tain** were admonished for not upholding the Military Rules of the Commonwealth (Cromwell) under Gen. Monk, that they had not convened all persons suspect of Popish resurgency. This they denied for on “1st May 1659 they callit one **HEW FERGUSSONE**” to swear the oath.....he was “onlie suspect.” (the only suspect) *No69

1660 JON FERGUSSONE.....“and me Jon Forrester owed money to Jon Fergusone who” would not release him from his debt. “as to uther lyball be Jon Fergusone against me, I am content my coming to the toune to cleir him.”

*No951. (A family trait? See Fergus of Tarlogie, *Ed.*)

1660 a document signed by the bailies etc. and **JON FERGUSSONE, GEORGE FERGUSSONE.** *No952

1667 *No60 To **Mr THOMAS FERGUSONE** “his fie all ye yeare 12.” (pounds or shillings?) Balnagowan Factors’ account book 1667. Was he their teacher/master?

1686 John Ferguson of Allan and Alexander Ross of Cockenzie, in **Gdansk** 1686 witnessed the swearing of an oath for a birth certificate by Alexander Pope from Tain, son of Gilbert Pope of Meikle Rhynie and Anna Munro, daughter of John Munro of Pittonachy. Fischer, *Scots in Prussia*. 183: D. Dobson, *Scots in Poland, Russia, and the Baltic States, 1550-1850.* (Baltimore, MD, 2000) (35 yrs on, still ‘of Allan’ from 1593? & proof of the Ferguson farmers and merchants in Tain trading in Poland)

1687 “and Ross of Bellamuckle to **Wm. FERGUSON** in Tayne”.

1687 Rural theft and dispute. Complainer Hendry Gordon of Harthill & Kirkton of Oynes re two of his tenants named Gordon mistreated by Patrick & Wm Leith “apprehend and transport George Gordon to the house of **GEORGE FERGUSONE of Newtone.**” Mention is made of Banff tolbooth. *No894 p354. The same George above at 1660 “of **Newton**” another holding in Tain Parish?

1744 “letter from **KATHERINE FERGUSON** (Governess?) to William Bailie as to his son,” addresses ‘condition of his clothes’ and upcoming social events that he should attend. *No166

1784 BARBARA daughter & heiress of **DAVID FERGUSON of Arbol**, married Alexander MacLeod of Salachy. Later, of Cambuscurrie. They are buried in St. Duthac’s Tain.

1795 A list of names of people in Tain includes **Jn. FERGUSON**, gardener in Tain. *No404

1815 From 21st January several children were born to “**Mr FERGUS FERGUSON**, Wright in Tain and his wife **ISOBEL McPHERSON**”.

1832 All their children are listed in the enrolment papers at Tain Royal Academy.

1833 From this date Fergus is listed as **FERGUS FERGUSON Esq. Tacksman of Tarlogie.** Scottish Historian Dr. Malcolm Bangor-Jones dated 4th June 2006. I quote, “*Malcolm, I was very pleased to see your material on the Fergusons in Donald’s file on the Mackenzies of Achiltibuie. My notes on Coigach suggest, that Ferguson at Tarlogie became tenant of Langwell in 1834, had become tenant of the farm of Glastullich the previous year, and in 1842 he entered Dalvraid and Dalcanchloch.*” Wow! Tacksman of **Tarlogie & Cambuscurrie** (1240 acres) at Tain in Easter Ross, and of the Wester Ross grazing properties of **Glastullich** (8000 acres), **Langwell** (6000 acres) and the farms of **Dalvraid** (6000) and **Dalcanchloch** (6000) all near Ullapool. That’s over **27,240** acres of land! He was about 39 years of age when he entered Tarlogie.

So, the **FERGUSONS** in past centuries in the Parishes of Tain and Fearn had owned, **Balblair, Allan, Meikle Allen, Arbol, Newton**, and the **Mill of Aldie**, and in Cromarty, held tack of Davidston and Navity.

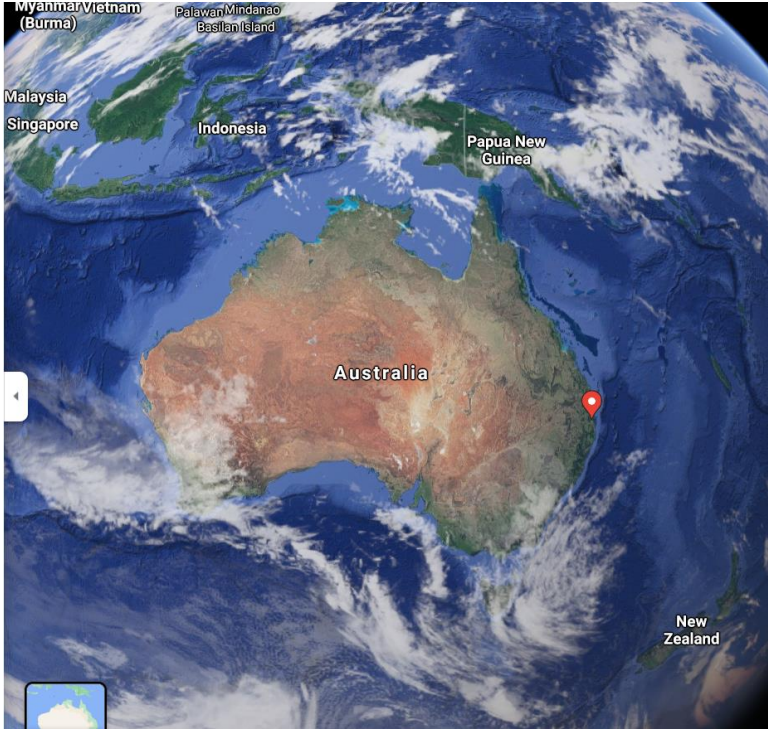
We have shown their continued recorded existence in the North from 1414, so realistically well before that. The **Fergusons, Macadies, Keddiess etc.** spread all over Easter Ross, Inverness-shire, Nairn, up to Sutherland, Caithness, the Orkneys, over to Wester Ross, the Isles of Skye and Lewis. Why has so little been addressed to this Clan? Because most were “broken men” and became tenants to and fought for the dominant Clans. Earlier to Clan Ross, then from around 1600-1900 to the power in the North, the MacKenzies, and later only two families I know of, one Ferguson, one MacAdie to Munro.

End of Part I.

Malcolm J. Ferguson Esq.



“IF MAN CAN.....I CAN”



Malcolm Ferguson lives here!



This is Malcolm Ferguson, CFSNA's Historian. He is responsible for the many great articles we have for the BeeLine. He lives in Queensland Australia. We think he has a nice-looking study, and we wonder if others have a study like his. Send your photo to the editor of Beeline for the challenge. 😊



Treat yourself and a friend to a night of Festival grandeur. We think you'll love this special ticketed event which gives you access to an evening of exceptional entertainment, a whisky appreciation, and our exclusive Gala 2 Go box designed for two. The box is stuffed with savoury nibbles, two

elegantly engraved scotch glasses and all the accessories you need to complement the evening program. Tickets for The 75th Gala 2 Go can be [purchased on the Festival website](#).

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The [Wee Digital Ceilidh 2 Go](#) opens its virtual gates on **Friday, August 13th** to bring you a stellar, modern spin on the traditional live event. The weekend schedule is packed with exceptional entertainment and features the Four Pillars of any Highland Games: Heavy Events, Highland Dance, Clans and Heritage, and Pipes and Drums. Tune into Festival favourites including the [Red Hot Chili Pipers](#), [Mudmen](#), and the [Steel City Rovers](#). Steep yourself in Scottish culture with traditional competitions, unique videos, virtual tours, inspiring lessons, and fascinating interviews.

MEET Steven Cornelius Heavy Athlete Hooking up with the Fergusons

Little background...I am a Heavies Athlete based out of the NY/PA area. I am the Amateur (soon to be Master) champion for the local Fergusson Clan in Buffalo headed by Vince and Robbin Zaleski. I was formally pinned by them in February 2020 at the 2020 Ceilidh and Ball. I have been throwing for the past 4 years and throw a lot with the Buffalo Heavies group. I have already hosted my own games in my local town of Bradford, PA called TheBrotherHood Pandemic games which I have thrown 2 years in a row now. Had almost 60 athletes at this year's competition. I have traveled to neighboring Ohio for many games as well as flown to Florida to throw there. I have plans to travel north to the new England states for a few games this year as well. I plan to travel more as time goes to throw all over the country and internationally at some point. My Daughter Katyra, 16yrs old, also throws and is the current world record holder in the US for the WOB (21#) HWFD (21#) LWFD (14#) Sheaf (10#) and Light Hammer (12#) Clan bacon has not updated their site for records yet, but they are all confirmed records. Franki Simms Goodman is record keeper and can confirm.

I also train local throwers and have brought many to the sport in a short time. I train young and old and love doing so. Currently I cannot throw as I had to have back surgery 2 weeks ago and have a 5lb lifting max. My goal this year was to qualify for masters' worlds in Texas as I turn 40 in September. With the setback from back issues, I now must postpone that goal till next year, but even still I train a group of throwers 2-3 days a week because I love what I do.

I plan to be at Grandfather Mountain next week as a spectator and am looking to engage with new people in this community. One of my main goals is to introduce myself to Clan Fergusson at this year's event and learn more about the clan and the people that run this one. I was wondering if I could be put in touch with those running the booth this year so I could reach out prior to travels to introduce myself and have some dialog prior to the game. I plan to be on site Thursday evening till Sunday. My goal is to be as engaged in this sport as i can be and to be an ambassador to new people and help grow the community of the Scottish Heavies, Its Communities and its Culture. I hope this finds you well and am eager to hear from you. Dulcius Ex Asperis

