

# THE PATRIOT



*Official Magazine of the Scottish ~ American Military Society*

## SAMS Athletes



Post 1775 Erica Finch, Amanda Ford, Christine Giblin  
Cheerleader Victor St Pierre, Kilted Runner Frank Ballentine



**BALLOT INSIDE**

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Fergit, Hell

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Would you like to be a contributing editor? Send an example of your field of interest to JoPatriot@aol.com.

RC contact information can be found on pages 25-28



## REGIONS

1. New England (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT )
2. New York (NY)
3. Keystone (NJ, PA)
4. Mid Atlantic (DC, DE, MD, VA)
5. South Atlantic (NC, SC, GA)
6. Gulf States (FL, AL, MS, LA)
7. Great Lakes (WV, OH, IN, MI )
8. Dakota Region (NE, SD, ND)
9. Hawkeye Valley (N IL, WI, IA, MN)
10. Missouri Valley (S IL, MO, KS)
11. Tennessee Valley (KY, TN, AR)
12. Texas & Oklahoma
13. Mountain (CO, NM)
14. Southwest (AZ, S NV, UT)
15. Northwest (WA, OR, ID, AK)
16. West (CA, N NV, HI)
17. Big Sky (MT, WY)



Fall, 2023  
Volume L No 3

Our Website: [www.S-A-M-S.org](http://www.S-A-M-S.org)

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BELOW ARE LISTED DEADLINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLES FOR THE PATRIOT. ANY ARTICLES SENT AFTER THE DUE DATE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

<b>Submission deadline</b>	<b>Publication</b>
February 25	Spring
May 22	Summer
August 21	Fall
November 20	Winter

Please submit your articles via e-mail to this address only:  
***JoPatriot@aol.com***

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*The Patriot* (ISSN 0736-5802). The editor welcomes articles bearing on military and veterans activities especially those relating to Scottish and American armed forces customs, traditions and heritage. However, the editor reserves the right to reject any submission. It is preferred that you e-mail all articles and pictures to ***JoPatriot@aol.com***. Digital photographs in jpg format and text in Word or MS Publisher for Windows.

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# Commander's Call and National Reports

## National Commander



### *The Promise of a Rainbow*

On July 9th, a friend and I were driving home from Grandfather Mountain Highland Games in Linville, NC. It was four days of beautiful weather.

Driving East coming down off the mountain we hit overcast conditions with off and on showers. In front of us was the most vividly colored rainbow I have ever seen; the contrast was so sharp you could see the boarder of each color to the one next to it.

The Biblical meaning of the Rainbow is the covenant from God to Noah that he would never destroy mankind by a total flood again. Many cultures have adopted the rainbow as a symbol of hope for better times to come.

I started thinking about SAMS. The dark clouds symbolizing the problems facing SAMS as an organization. The rain showers symbolizing the individual Post problems and the obstacles they face.

Some Posts have pulled over to the side waiting for the rains to stop and go away, never reaching their destiny. Other Posts see the rains ahead and turn around and give up not even trying to move forward. Then there are some Posts who look beyond the rain and clouds, they see the rainbow, they realize the hope and challenges of going forward achieving their goals and reaching their destiny.

I thought about the four days on the mountain and the 40-some new members we recruited. It was very hot and 100% humidity on that mountain. We could have said it was too hot and just gave up, but we pushed on and were successful. I also thought about all the Posts across the country. I know there are some who have just given up and exist *in Name only*, but there are many more who are pushing on thru the rains and clouds to reach that rainbow. I thank you ALL!

I tell you this because I want you all to know: There are storms coming! Changes will be made in SAMS. It depends on how you look at the road ahead, will you just pull over and give up? Or will you see the rainbow ahead and see the hope and promise of things to come? To those who give up and pull over, you will be pushed aside or even off the road to make room for those who see the rainbow.

The changes coming will be as clear and vivid as the rainbow I described. I cannot promise a pot of gold at the end, but I can promise that the Scottish American Military Society will grow and become a better organization both Nationally and Locally.

As one of our Regional Commanders, Robert Donaldson, RC15 told me "We are a unique military organization, we are more family oriented than any other organization, also more active, and more visible to the public because of our SAMS uniforms".

The key to our success is *Recruiting*. Ask anyone you see with a Veteran ball cap, an "I served" T-shirt or anything else that shows they served, "Have you heard of the Scottish American Military Society?" Tell them who we are and invite them to look us up using our National website S-A-M-S.org. They can also call your Post Commander and Post Adjutant. They can even go online to signup using the current SAMS National application on the website.

Let's all look at our rainbows and keep faith that all will be better in the near future.

—*Kenneth Lloyd, NC*

## National Vice-Commander



Kudos to NC Lloyd and all Regional Commanders who have organized new Posts and revitalized old ones.

SAMS is back!

—*Margaret Rothermel, NVC:*

## National Adjutant



Due to circumstances beyond our control, the 2023 election announcement with statements, etc., was not received as prescribed in the By-Laws. We are going to shift the timeline as needed.

**PLEASE READ ALL VOTING INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 42!**

I ask that all new member applications be on the "Revised 22 Nov 2022" edition found on our web page ([www.S-A-M-S.org](http://www.S-A-M-S.org)). Please rid yourselves of all others. If you are verifying a new member's proof of service, please read the app for complete information and that it is READABLE. If the 'newbie' is joining your Post, please put the Post number on the application, otherwise they will be marked as MAL. Per our By-laws, a person cannot be a member of a Post until or unless they are assigned an R number by the National Adjutant.

I am still getting renewals at this late date. I encourage all Posts to start their dues renewal drive in April. The lateness of these renewals puts an extra burden on the Adjutant. Notice of renewal dates, etc., is in every Patriot.

**NOTE:** It is very important that you *Please include full name and National member number, on all correspondences, including checks.*

**NOTE:** I do not conduct SAMS business via Facebook or text messages. Anything you want to discuss, report, etc., send it to the below e-mail address or pick up the phone and call.

Use the e-mail address [samsnatadj.2019@aol.com](mailto:samsnatadj.2019@aol.com) for SAMS official business ONLY.

—*Jo Lawrence, NA*

## Comptroller's Report



*Haia, sut wyt ti* or “Hello, how are you doing?” in Welsh. My recent genetic test indicates more Welsh and Irish origin than Scots and the majority of my DNA is Finnish and a miniscule 1% from Sardinia, apparently the geographic ancestor of the bag pipes. During my time as SAMS Councilor and Comptroller I have spoken and served with a great many military veterans and family members and I am thankful for the contribution of my fellow members’ time and money to help sustain SAMS.

New life memberships have been and will continue to be on hold until our Life membership reserve fund meets a target as dictated by our Bylaws. In order to begin accepting Life memberships again we would need to consider increasing member dues for next year.

Our National Council meeting occurs each year near Thanksgiving where major decisions and any proposed amendment to the Bylaws are motioned and voted on. (Motions can be directed to Councilors by Regional Commanders).

Posts can request of National to collect and remit dues via check to the National Adjutant or pay online with a request to my email address at [rward-adams@charter.net](mailto:rward-adams@charter.net) as can members-at-large.

While SAMS is permitted under the Internal Revenue Code to extend its 501.c. 19 exempt organization designation to Posts the recordkeeping requirements are beyond our capabilities. ***Any cash maintained by the Posts should be kept in the care of a custodian and our name, national tax ID number and exempt organization status cannot be affiliated with any Posts bank accounts (see 2019 By-laws, Article VI.4).*** *Hwyl a fflag!*

—Russell W Adams, N. Comp

## Assistant National Adjutant/Comptroller



Looking at a calendar, the festival season is beginning to come to an end. Hopefully, all went well for you. Some Posts visited several festivals and games, and some only a few. As I write this, I have worked at three festivals this year, and have three to go. I have participated in two Color Guards and managed to keep in step most of the time over the bumpy ground. The SAMS tents at each festival had plenty of help, so I was able to concentrate most of my efforts in my own Clan’s tent. I still handed out several Passports and conversed with several veterans before referring them back to the SAMS tent. I don’t know what happened then, but I’ll get back to that in a moment.

The 2nd edition of the Promotion Portfolio is in the works and will be distributed to all Region and Post Commanders in the Fall. Look at the samples contributed by other Posts and adapt them for your use in recruiting and promotion next year. Those who shared materials have gone to a great deal of effort to share

the “message” of SAMS and increase their Posts’ membership.

If you have absolutely no idea what I’m talking about, last Spring I worked with Debra Lloyd, SAMS’ Public Relations, to create a collection of promotion and recruiting materials used by Posts when they talked to visitors at festivals they attended. The “Portfolio” includes tools like business cards, sign-up sheets, brochures, posters, applications, and other display items that anyone can share with visitors. If you “work a tent” for your Post, you should take a look at the Portfolio and see if any of the items can be useful to your purposes.

I think business cards, a sign-up sheet, a brochure, and SAMS/Post applications are the MINIMUM all Posts should have on-hand, along with a good supply of Passports and prizes. All are items you can give to veterans who visit the tent, and the sign-up sheet “reminds” you later who was there.

Here are a few things to think about, and questions to ask yourself for next time:

1. If the vet didn’t join at the tent, how did you follow up with them after the festival?
2. Did they join then?
3. How many vets pulled out \$50 - \$60 or more in cash to join on-the-spot?
4. Does your Post have a “Square” or similar device that allows a credit card payment in lieu of cash?
5. Did you even have a sign-up sheet? If you did, did EVERYONE sign it, or just prospective SAMS members?

One of the festivals I attended didn’t have a sign-up sheet. I didn’t know that until the last afternoon, so no one knew who stopped by at the tent or how to follow up. It’s been a lot of years since I was in the service, but I don’t remember ever doing anything that didn’t include my name showing up somewhere on a piece of paper.

SAMS has a long list of Members-at-Large (MAL). These people don’t “belong” to a Post, and many don’t know how to join a Post, even if they wanted to. Colorado has two SAMS Posts, so which one a person could join is also a question that should be asked. Many other Regions have the same issue.

I don’t have a ready solution, but this is what common sense says should happen: Every Region, and every Post, should know WHO attended a festival and talked to a SAMS member about joining the organization. Sign-up sheets should absolutely be used, and should be sent on to a Post Commander, who then should copy the Region Commander. The prospective member should then be contacted about joining by at least a couple people to get them into the Post that best meets their needs. A Region Commander should also have access to a list of MALs in their area, and attempt to contact them, as well, about joining a Post. It is typical of organizations like SAMS to have members “fall through the cracks,” but it doesn’t have to be that way. We all owe it to SAMS to do the best job we can to build the organization.

If you have any samples of recruiting materials, or



any other ideas you would like to include in the Promotion Portfolio, 2nd edition, send them on to me. As always, all the best in your efforts as the festival season wraps up.

—Mike Thomas, ANA/C,  
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### Cyber Committee Chair



—Ralph Wallace

### Nominating Committee Chair

—VACANT

### Quartermaster



—Doris Anderson

### Asst Quartermaster

Adrien Herbison

### Budget/Finance Committee



—Connie Carlson

### Dress Code Committee Chair



At the direction of the NC, the Dress Code Committee is doing a complete review and revision of the current SAMS Dress Code. Many of you received a request for input via email and on the SAMS Facebook page, but for those who didn't, I am soliciting input from all members in regard to what you believe should be included or discarded from the current Code. Please note; If you submit input concerning the dress code, it needs to include a justification as to why it should be included or removed. Suggestions without an included justification will not be considered.

Once all of the input from the field is received and reviewed, a revised National SAMS Dress Code will be presented to the National Commander and Council for their review and approval.

#### ALL SAMS MEMBERS, PCs AND RCs:

Effective with the Fall 2023 Issue of the Patriot Magazine, pictures submitted for inclusion in the magazine showing SAMS Members in the SAMS Uniform: Said members must be in compliance with the current or future SAMS Dress Code or the pictures will not be included in the magazine. That does not mean that members in Polo shirts, Auxiliary uniforms, or members not in uniform because they don't have it completed yet should be excluded. It means if you're wearing the uniform, wear it properly.

—Allan Sperling, samsdresscode@yahoo.com

### From the Editor



Looking forward, I am contemplating taking on an 'apprentice' Patriot editor. (This old biddy ain't gonna live forever...) Someone who is a veteran, a member in good standing and not already in a National elected or appointed office.

Must have Publisher and either a desk top or full screen laptop computer. (cannot do this magazine on a tablet or phone). Need to have the time to arrange articles and photos in a logical layout and have at least a nodding acquaintance with punctuation and grammar. (see past Patriots for examples) If you are interested, contact me at the below address.

**REMINDER:** Send Patriot articles and photos to [JoPatriot@aol.com](mailto:JoPatriot@aol.com). Please ID photos with *who* is in them, *when* was it taken, *where* was it taken, *what* was the event and include your full name, member number and Post number on all submissions. For Cadet awards, please include the Cadet's full name and rank and what the award was for (Cadet of the Year, Superior Academics, etc.) Also please do not crop photos, I will do that as necessary.

I do not take photos, etc., off Facebook, all submissions must come via regular e-mail. Thanks.

Jo Lawrence, Managing Editor, [JoPatriot@aol.com](mailto:JoPatriot@aol.com)

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—Blake Vieyra, [Blake.vieyra@gmail.com](mailto:Blake.vieyra@gmail.com)

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HAPPY FALL YA'LL is a common greeting here in North Carolina for the season. As we are coming into another season, we have hopefully had a good Spring and a fantastic Summer in SAMS. My own Post, 1775, recruited 27 Post members and 18 MALS in the three days that we were at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. It's not our best record, but still pretty darn good if I do say so myself. So, I'd like to tell you how they accomplished this task so you can try it within your own Post.

The first thing they do is they engage people with a greeting and find out what their level of knowledge of SAMS. They then start a conversation about Scottish genealogy, local history, military service, and their family info, etc. They want the Veteran to interact with

them, sparking their interest in our organization. Once they do, and they have completed an application and taken time to have a cold drink and refreshment with them, you welcome them to the Post and to SAMS. We all need to feel wanted and a place to go to that's comforting to us.

*Recruitment* is an art. You need to know your facts and know how to relate to people who you don't know. You need to learn to be a salesperson, literally, after all, you are selling our organization every time you set up a SAMS tent. You learn this by practicing. I used to do sales years ago when I was younger. I was trained by the best salesman in our company and then I was allowed to practice on people who were already our clients. They evaluated my skills and then gave me suggestions and eventually I learned the *Art* of selling. Its something everyone can do.

This Fall is going to be our last chance to grow our organization before we are held captive by old man Winter. So, I'd like to suggest something that I hope helps each Post do better in recruitment. Practice on each other, at your monthly meetings, try recruitment tactics and even creating a few new ones.

Check out: [wildapricot.com/blog/ways-to-get-new-members](http://wildapricot.com/blog/ways-to-get-new-members) and [greatideastoshare.com/2011/10/11/100-ways-to-recruit-new-members/](http://greatideastoshare.com/2011/10/11/100-ways-to-recruit-new-members/). There's so much information on these two sites that any Post should be able to use. I love trying new ideas.

If your Post is needing a fundraiser; look *no* further than Amazon. My Post purchased a 38" basket Hilt Ceremonial Scottish Broadsword with leather wrapped scabbard, red, Item # 910991 through SZCO Supplies Store on Amazon. Its currently listed for \$96.76. If you sell tickets for \$1 or 6/\$5, you'll find people flocking to your tent for a chance to win it! Its our BIGGEST fundraiser for our Scholarship fund to date. I pride myself on being a pretty good ticket hawker when things slow down at the tent. I like to take the roll of tickets, set the broadsword on a tripod, and go out front and hawk tickets to everyone passing by. At one of our Games this year, I personally sold over \$100 worth in about 45 minutes. I challenged the other members to try their hand at it. We did extremely well that day. That's the way to get people up out of their chairs, involved in the SAMS tent and get your Post some much needed funds. You can do it with anything you raffle – make it FUN and make it an activity that includes the entire Post.

*Retention.* No one is going to stay in an organization if it isn't giving them a purpose to stay. *Put your new members to work from day one.* Every Post needs a newsletter, someone to help organize the food and refreshments, or to plan your next function or participate in a new event in your area. Start thinking about giving these new members *jobs* to do in the Post.

*Service positions.* Think outside the box and allow them to develop their own role if they are creative and computer savvy. Everyone wants to be needed. Don't just go with the normal positions; PC, VC, Comptroller, or Adjutant. Make titles that serve a purpose and a

need; (I'm Director of Games and Events within my own Post). Put people to work and you'll have a better retention percentage than you might imagine. Veterans are very knowledgeable, and the retired ones have time to give, but need a purpose. Help your Post grow by being the fertilizer it needs to do so. Bring people together by having nights out together as a group, have a membership drive night and invite a "Friend" to come to the meeting, offer a one-time discount on your Post dues if they sign up right then and there. Hold a raffle and give a free SAMS membership as a drawing. Have a kilted night out at a nice restaurant, ask a member of the local Rotary Club to be a keynote speaker and then pick their brains on how they recruit new members. *Make retention just as important as recruitment* and you'll be on the winning team each time. Hope you have a successful FALL Ya'll!

—Debra Lloyd, [debrallloyd01@gmail.com](mailto:debrallloyd01@gmail.com)



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Post 1297 PC Chris Lamberton, and Bill Walters, present a \$1000.00 donation check to Matthew Phillips, of US Vets in Prescott. US Vets is dedicated to helping homeless veterans. Altogether, for this year's campaign, we donated a total of \$5000.00.



# Flowers of the Forest



## **James Allen Grismer R4178 Post 7**

15 March 1940 ~ 3 July 2023.



A native of Queens, New York, known as Jim or “The Griz,” He earned his associate’s degree in agriculture at SUNY Farmingdale State College, and a bachelor of science degree in agricultural sciences at the University of Georgia. He remained a proud Georgia Bulldogs fan for the rest of his days.

He enlisted in the Army in 1963, serving as a platoon sergeant with the 1st Battalion, 69th Regiment, 42nd Infantry Division. After an honorable discharge, he worked at the World’s Fair in New York City before becoming a management professional for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. His role as the General Manager of Operations for New York’s World Trade Center genuinely showcased his abilities. He was responsible for the building’s electrical, mechanical and structural maintenance, housekeeping, fire safety and security. He retired in 1997 after 33 years. The tragedies of the 1993 truck bombing and 9/11 brought the loss of over 90 co-workers, many of whom worked with him for over 25 years.

He was a volunteer firefighter in NY and Savannah, GA. He accrued 65 years in the volunteer fire service during his life.

Jim spent his life honoring our nation’s veterans after being honorably discharged. He had a long history with the American Legion Savannah Post 135, and was involved in other veteran organizations and military societies. He has held leadership positions in various capacities as Commander of the Second Division of the Veterans Reserve and Commander of the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War in New York State. Additionally, he is a member of the Scottish American Military Society Color Guard and the 69th Regiment Veterans Corps. In 2021, he was named Grand Marshal for the Savannah Veterans Day parade. Jim is survived by his beloved wife, Anne, two daughters, two sons and eight grandchildren.

## **David Carlisle Harder R5030 Post 1297**

9 February 1952 ~ 7 March 2023

Served in the Navy 1970-1976. Memorial service was held 30 March 2023 at Vineyard Church, Prescott Valley. David was an associate pastor at the church. He had served as Post Vice Commander, Post Treasurer, and as Post Chaplain. Post 1297 provided the Color Guard for the service. Post Commander Chris Lamberton delivered the eulogy.

## **Edgar Finley Harbin, Jr. R1816 Post 1775**

19 August 1931 ~ 28 August 2023

“Ned” Harbin died at his home following a sudden illness. He loved SAMS and was a charter member of Post 1775. It was just a couple of months ago we sent each other text messages talking about his history with SAMS. Our Post Color Guard would be honored to be at his funeral to show our love, support and gratitude for his continued support. He was an Air Force Veteran 1954-1957, who was proud of his Scottish roots. Rest in Peace soldier.

Debra Lloyd, Post 1775

## **Joseph Francis Connolly, II OL469 MAL**

15 Feb 1944 ~ 2023

A native of Quincy, Massachusetts. Master Sergeant Army Special Forces, 1961-1996, Colonel Florida Guard, 2003-2010, LtCol Civil Air Patrol, 1989, USCG Auxiliary, 1999. Marine Corps League, Special Forces Association, American College Heraldry, Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War, VFW, DAV, Legion of Frontiersmen of the British Commonwealth, Celtic Order St. Adaman, Military Order of Purple Heart, Special Forces Association, 75th Tanager Association, American College Heraldry, Association United States Army, Dust-off Association, Fellow: Royal Society Arts (UK). Knighthood, (Lord Sutton) Sovereign Military Order of St. John of Jerusalem of the Province of Wien, Austria.



# Flowers of the Forest



## Jack F McDaniels OL293 MAL

6 July 1937 ~ 19 June 2023



USCG 1954-1960 USA 1961-1976

A native of Sparta, Illinois, Jack served in the Coast Guard 1954-1960, traveling to many locations including Long Beach, CA and the big island of Hawaii. He then served the Army 1961-1976. Some of his postings included Ft Hood, TX, Fort Knox, KY, France and Germany. He fulfilled two tours in Vietnam and then in Fort Campbell, KY where he retired. After that he worked as a prison guard and a security guard.

Jack married Edna Mae Hitzemann in 1964 in Mexico. They later divorced. Jack married Alice Kay Hartmann in 1985 in Steeleville, Illinois. She survives him.

Jack was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Plainview, Texas. He belonged to the VFW Kaskaskia Post 3553 in Chester, Illinois. He was a long time member of Randolph County Genealogical Society in Steeleville, Illinois. He enjoyed the outdoors and camping. In his latter years he loved to watch birds and the squirrels in his yard.

Jack is also survived by two children, two grandchildren a brother and two sisters, several nieces and nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces nephews.

It was Jack's wish to be Cremated. His ashes will be inurned at a later date.

—Alice McDaniels



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## New Regular Members

Kirk David Lyons	R5565	Black Mountain, NC	Daniel Byes	R5622	Colorado Springs, CO
Brian Douglas Gardner	R5566	Wilmington, NC	John G McCuen	R5623	McEwen, TN
Lawrence E Josefowski	R5567	Magnolia, DE	John P Ford	R5624	Westfield, IN
R Scott Broome	R5568	Greer, SC	Shaun Eathery	R5625	Flagstaff, AZ
Erica Fincher	R5569	Columbia, SC	Sean Taylor	R5626	Grand Junction, CO
Chris Gordon	R5570	Greensboro, NC	Philip P Brown	R5627	Chino Valley, AZ
Eric T Grimes	R5571	Greenville, SC	Maggie Carter	R5628	Prescott Valley, AZ
Johnnie M Jones, Jr	R5572	Westminister, SC	Thomas Grinsell	R5629	Poulsbo, WA
Patricia S Jones	R5573	Westminister, SC	Robert Anderson	R5630	Enumclaw, WA
Steven C Kiefer	R5574	Woodstock, GA	John Carlson	R5631	Grapeview, WA
Carol Marsden	R5575	Winterville, GA	Steve Dawson	R5632	Graham, WA
Jason B Ross	R5576	Greer, SC	Eric Johnson	R5633	Steilacoom, WA
Spencer Welker	R5577	Clarkesville, TN	Kenneth R McFetridge	R5634	Tacoma, WA
Regan L Crowder	R5578	Ketchikan, AK	Angie Smith	R5635	Spanaway, WA
Daniel Corbett	R5579	Winnabow, NC	Heather Spaite	R5636	Graham, WA
Jonnie Cordeiro	R5580	Wilmington, NC	Zachary T Stewart	R5637	Olympia, WA
Gillian D Edens	R5581	Wilmington, NC	Justin R Corwin	R5638	Durham, NC
Michael Guderian	R5582	Wilmington, NC	John E. Crom	R5639	Montezuma, NC
Caleb L Rice	R5583	Jacksonville, NC	Bethany Graham	R5640	Indian Trail, NC
Lynette Ledgerwood	R5584	Kelso, WA	Robert H. Graham	R5641	Indian Trail, NC
Rebecca Ledgerwood	R5585	Kelso, WA	Allen Haas	R5642	Brevard, NC
Ellen Belle West-Lilja	R5586	Longview, WA	Debra Greer Haas	R5643	Brevard, NC
Cathleen Marie Hennie	R5587	Roy, WA	James A Harp	R5644	Midway Park, NC
John C Eubanks R5588	Las Vegas	NV	Lee F Hays	R5645	Waynesville, NC
Jacob Parry Richardson	R5589	Bountiful, UT	Max Hermann	R5646	Abingdon, VA
Joseph P Worland	R5590	Gresham, OR	James F Holbert	R5647	Hendersonville, NC
Katherine B Tate-Worland	R5591	Gresham, OR	Charles Huckabee	R5648	Greensboro, NC
Erick C Rentner	R5592	Longview, WA	Mark McDuffie	R5649	Anderson, SC
Bruce C Denton	R5593	Ingalls, KS	Johathan Mullis	R5650	Matthews, NC
Christina J. S. Swan	R5594	Sierra Vista, AZ	Joseph D Park	R5651	Lansing, NC
Sean Smith	R5595	Tucson, AZ	Brenda K. Piotrowski	R5652	Cameron, NC
Kevin L Wakefield	R5596	Tucson, AZ	Clinton Piotrowski	R5653	Cameron, NC
James A Gretta	R5597	Tucson, AZ	Bob Schreck	R5654	Rogersville, TN
Tammy Gretta	R5598	Tucson, AZ	Christian E. Sluder	R5655	Candler, NC
Calvin M Saylor, Jr	R5599	Tucson, AZ	Sylvia A. Talley	R5656	Marietta, GA
Dave Ure	R5600	Sierra Vista, AZ	Noah E. Taylor III	R5657	Nickelsville, VA
Kathryn A Campbell	R5601	SeaTac, WA	Michele Ward	R5658	Camden, NC
Donald E McLean	R5602	Georgetown, TN	Jason R Wood	R5659	Whispering Pines, NC
Cynthia Andruzzi	R5603	Knoxville, TN	Phillip A. Boyer	R5660	New Orleans, LA
David W McWha	R5604	Victoria, TX	Nicolas Dyal	R5661	Johnson City, TN
Tim Mahalakos	R5605	Rancho Cordova, CA	Heath Evenson	R5662	Knoxville, TN
Deborah L Marquard	R5606	House Springs, MO	Michael K. Fitz	R5663	Fort Worth, TX
Kenn Andrus	R5607	Athens, GA	Nathaniel Gibbs	R5664	Newton, IA
Tiffany Jo Blackwell-Nelson	R5608	Colorado Springs, CO	Michael D Harper	R5665	Dawson, AL
James M Rawson	R5609	Orem, UT	Shelby Hoogenboom	55667	Johnson City, TN
Jerold Halcrow	R5610	Orem, UT	John Denley Leutz	R5668	Glade Spring, VA
Eric Hinton	R5611	Tucson, AZ	John William Moss	R5669	Ayden, NC
Brianna Caitlin Green	R5612	Sierra Vista, AZ	Deborah L Murphy	R5670	Durant, FL
Brandon Duncan	R5613	Hereford, AZ	Thomas P Reeder	R5671	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Marc D Jerome	R5614	Provo, UT	Kevin S Robbie	R5672	Jacksonville, FL
Leah J Spencer Rosetti	R5615	Lyden, WA	Theodore Rubsaman III	R5673	Virginia Beach, VA
Cheryl Reid	R5616	Anacortes, WA	Jacqueline Trotter	R5674	Warner Robbins, GA
Charles S Newman, Jr	R5617	Luray, VA	Richard T Westfall	R5675	Epworth, GA
Peggy Lamberton	R5618	Prescott, AZ	Walter Andruzzi	R5676	Knoxville, TN
Marlyn L Chambers	R5619	Chino Valley, AZ	Gary G Olene	R5677	Converse, TX
Christina Hepker	R5620	Prescott Valley, AZ	Steven Landreth	R5678	Marysville, WA
Christie Waugh	R5621	Prescott, AZ	Shaun A Davis	R5679	Dallas, OR

Stuart Trimble	R5680	Lewiston, ID	Craig J Buchanan	R5686	Unicol, TN
Rebecca J Anderson Dauer	R5681	Spokane Valley, WA	William W McKenzie	R5687	Nashville, TN
Joseph B Bowen	R5682	Albemarle, NC	Raul Sinclair	R5688	Clearwater, FL
John McGerrigle	R5683	Lincolnton, NC	Wes Burns	R5689	Mesa, AZ
Eric K Vines	R5684	Chester, SC	Paula K Artac	R5690	Glendale, AZ
Tracy Lynn Vines	R5685	Chester, SC	Daniel H Gardner	R5691	Gladstone, VA
			Thomas A Fleming	R5691	Spokane, WA

Welcome one and all. May your membership in SAMS bring you interesting times and many new friends.  
We encourage all members to affiliate with a Post

## DUES ~ \$35 / year ~ 1 July ~ 30 June

Every member is responsible for keeping their annual dues up to date, either as an individual or via your Post.  
1.) **Individual members**, send check with National member number on the memo line directly to the National Adjutant.

2.) **Posts may collect** National dues and send a check with names of members (with National R numbers) to the National Adjutant. To do this, Post must request (one time) dispensation from the National Commander.

3.) For **electronic payments**, contact Comptroller Russell Adams ([rwardadams@charter.net](mailto:rwardadams@charter.net)) for instructions.

### Posts are responsible for keeping track of their members.

You cannot be a member of a Post if you are in arrears with your National dues.

**Members at Large** may pay either via check or electronically as noted above.

**All dues are due** no later than **25 June** (to give us time to process prior to 30 June). After 30 June you are in arrears and will not receive The Patriot and you will not be able to vote in the National Election

### MAKE NATIONAL DUES CHECKS PAYABLE TO SAMS

**INCLUDE YOUR MEMBER NUMBER and FULL NAME ON ALL CORRESPONDENCES**

**INCLUDE YOUR POST NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCES.**

### DEPLOYED ACTIVE DUTY SAMS MEMBERS

The Annual dues of any SAMS member who is on Active Duty and deployed (thereby having an APO or FPO for a mailing address), will have his/her dues paid for the full year while he/she is deployed.

The National Adjutant must be notified of this fact by letter or email from the Post Commander or Adjutant

Members-At-Large send a copy of your orders to the National Adjutant.

**National Adjutant must be notified when deployed member returns stateside.**

### OUR ADVERTISERS ~ Tell'em you saw it in The Patriot

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## Easy Access to VA Products, Services

*Login.gov* is a U.S. government service that provides seamless access to government websites.

A *Login.gov* account allows you to use the same email and password to access VA.gov, My HealtheVet, VA/DoD Ebenefits and the VA Health and Benefits mobile app. Plus, you can securely sign in to USAJOBS and TSA pre-check, and apply for SBA small business loans and disaster aid.

### SUICIDE AWARENESS

We Must take care of our brothers and sisters. Some websites to use as reference points for education purposes and in order for you to not be overwhelmed if you are supporting someone who is in desperate need.

- **"988" direct dial** number for the National Suicide Prevention Helpline.
- [http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide\\_prevention/](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/suicide_prevention/) Go to "Warning Signs" tab to start for your initial awareness.
- <http://www.suicideoutreach.org/> Massive amount of information and links to all of the programs
- [http://www2.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Find\\_Support/Veterans\\_Resources/Veterans\\_and\\_Suicide/Veterans\\_and\\_Suicide.htm](http://www2.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Find_Support/Veterans_Resources/Veterans_and_Suicide/Veterans_and_Suicide.htm)

Do not be afraid to ask for help for yourself or someone close to you.

## **NOTICE OF ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS**

### **NATIONAL VICE COMMANDER**

Allan Sperling OL559



I accept the nomination for National Vice Commander (NVC).

A SAMS Member since 2015 and a Life Member since 2017 with Post 81 in Arizona. He has served as Post VC, PC, Region 14 RC, and National Councilor.

A Navy Veteran, served four years active duty aboard the USS Sand Lance (SSN660), a Nuclear Powered, Sturgeon Class, Fast Attack Submarine as a Radioman, followed by nine years in both the Navy Reserve as a Master-at-Arms and the Army Reserve as an Intel Analyst. Mr. Sperling is a retired Department of Homeland Security, Senior Special Agent, with 25 years of law enforcement experience along the US/Mexico Border in southeastern Arizona. He has also served as a Correctional Officer and a Deputy Sheriff.

Mr. Sperling's military and law enforcement experience brings with it management, organizational, and people skills. Having served for months at a time in a submerged submarine, he quickly learned how to get along and work with shipmates under trying, and often dangerous conditions. In his law enforcement capacity, he was responsible for the planning, coordination, and supervision of long term, multi-agency narcotics interdiction operations as well as the management of confidential informants. He was also responsible for the supervision and training of the Firearms & Defensive Tactics Unit, the Desert Surveillance and Reconnaissance Team (DSRT), the Warrant Entry Team, and the Horse Patrol.

When he joined Post 81, there were three active members and they had not set up a SAMS Booth at any event in recent years. He coordinated the booth at the 2015 Tucson Highland Games and by the end of the Games, the Post had increased to twelve members. As the Post had no apparent Charter at that time, he wrote the Charter justification, the Post By-Laws, and organized the first elections, as well as organizing and equipping the first Post Color Guard. The Post received their full Charter in 2016.

As the Post continued to grow and had members located in two cities 75+ miles apart, he was instrumental in organizing the Post into two separate Companies (Alfa & Bravo), each with its own Company Commander, Adjutant, and Treasurer. He worked with other Post members rewriting the By-Laws to reflect the new Post structure. The Winter 2022 Patriot stated that Arizona has the highest SAMS membership in the country (126). More than half of those belong to Post 81.

Mr. Sperling's primary goals as the NVC include raising awareness and recognition of the Scottish American Military Society as a National Veterans Organization, the recruitment of new SAMS members nationwide, the proper wearing of the SAMS uniform

(as outlined in the SAMS Dress Code), and the cooperation and interaction of Posts, especially those that are adjacent to each other.

### **National Comptroller**

Russell Ward Adams R4502



As a member of SAMS, I manage the bookkeeping, assist the National Adjutant with maintaining the membership roster and dues collection. My Army service includes six years in the Headquarters Battery of the former 2/117<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Battalion of the Alabama Army National Guard located at Auburn, Alabama (disbanded in 1992) and a Class 32 graduate of the Alabama Military Academy "AMA" (now known as the 200<sup>th</sup> Regional Training Institute or RTI) and trained at the former Fort McClellan Army Base in Anniston, Alabama and Craig Air Force Base in Selma, Alabama. I attended both Auburn University and the University of Alabama at Birmingham, I am a licensed public accountant and home inspector. My hobbies include RVing, genealogy and amateur radio where I operate under the call sign W4PSA. I think that our Society has much to offer veterans and their families by providing a formal administrative and corporate organization to serve Regional Commanders, Posts and Members-At-Large and provide funding for preservation of military history through quarterly publication of The Patriot magazine.

### **NATIONAL COUNCILOR-at-LARGE 2024/2026**

Douglas Kenyon OL361



I am pleased to offer my services for another term as National Councilor for SAMS. I have held this position for six consecutive terms. My combined experience makes me a unique and qualified candidate. A Life member, last year I relocated to Colorado, keeping my membership with Post 1921. I look forward to growing SAMS membership in the South West region of Colorado.

Served in the Navy 1970-74, Navy Reserve 1974-76 and Army Reserve 1976-82. Veteran activities other than SAMS include: American Legion and Life Member of the Navy League.

I hold an A.S. in Occupational Safety and Health, B.S. in Business Administration and a Juris Doctor. I retired from full time employment in 2018.

My background, qualifications and tenure make me well suited for continued service as a Councilor. I have held numerous civic positions including Board of Directors for the Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce. I am a Past President for the Scottish Society of the Monterey Peninsula. My undergraduate business major



was in Marketing and Risk Management. My primary Law emphasis was Insurance Defense litigation. I also enhanced and managed the company's Alternative Dispute Resolution Program and handled off calendar cases. I have specialized training in Mediation and Arbitration. I also hold a California Community College Teaching Credential and have taught at the 2-year and 4-year college level and MBA level courses.

My Scottish affiliation is Clan MacKintosh of North America.

I will continue to uphold the Charter and By-Laws of the Society to the extent they further the objectives and goals of the Society and the orderly administration of its activities, and I will support the National Commander, Executive Committee and the Chairman of Councilors in keeping with the traditions of the Society and the advancement of activities designed for the betterment of the Society, and I will continue to actively support and engage in efforts to reinforce the development of the Society through its recruitment and retention efforts.

Richard T. Farquharson OL462.

I joined SAMS in 2013, and am presently serving as a National Councilor. I am a Navy veteran, served during the Korean Conflict from 1951 -1954.

I am a graduate Civil Engineer having received my BS degree from Northeastern University in 1960. My work experience involves over 50 years involved in Building Construction in the New England area. My career will allow me to absorb issues and practice intelligent decisions for the future growth and prosperity of SAMS. I ask for votes from the membership in the upcoming election for the next two year term

Connie L. Carlisle Carlson OL526,



I am running for reelection as a Counselor-At-Large. If re-elected, this will be my third Term. I am a life member of SAMS, past PC of Post 1847 (Utah), and currently Chairman of the Budget committee. Additionally, I serve as a Board Member for the Utah Scottish Association and serve as SAMS representative as well on the Board.

I served 39 years in the Army (Aviation and Intelligence Branches), a member of CERT, Medical Reserve Corps, Team Rubicon (Disaster Response Team), Air Force Civil Air Patrol, and Community Emergency Preparedness overall. I also did on-call work for one of our police departments of working with various victims ranging from domestic/intimate partner violence, sexual assault, homicides, suicides, etc. I am also a member of our local Orchestra and play multiple instruments.

I would be honored to be re-elected to the position of National Counselor-At-Large to continue to further serve the Scottish-American Military Society and its members.

## INSTRUCTIONS

You must put a stamp on the Pre addressed return envelope (found stapled within this issue)

**You Must** Place black inked X in box adjacent to candidates of your choice

### DO NOT SIGN THE BALLOT

Detach along ◇◇◇◇◇ line and place ballot in the pre-addressed envelope and seal.

If YOU do not want to cut the page out, you may copy it. And follow the directions.

### YOU MUST WRITE

### ONLY

### YOUR MEMBER NUMBER

### ON FACE OF RETURN ENVELOPE IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER

**Your member number is located above your name on the back cover of this issue**

**ANY Return envelope without a member number will not be recognized And NOT counted**

**Make your choice and mail as soon as possible.**

**Ballots received after 15 DECEMBER 2023 will not be counted**



**If you don't vote, you cannot complain**

# Joshua Chamberlain ~ 1828-1914

Jim "Ski" Schiaffino

The general sat astride his horse watching two Confederate riders approaching his unit. He had seen more than his share of battles. Indeed he had been hit by Confederate fire six times, had three horses shot out from under him and had been declared deceased two times. Initially, uncertain as to their intentions he ordered his men to cease firing. Then as the riders crested the nearby hill he noticed that one of them held a staff with a white flag attached. Joshua Chamberlain was about to accept the initial offer of capitulation from General Robert E. Lee.

Chamberlain was a quiet scholar from Maine, fluent in ten languages, with no prior military experience yet General Grant considered him to be his most indispensable aide. He even ordered him to accept the formal surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia. So how did he become probably one of the most remarkable soldiers in the Civil War?

History first stumbles across this humble scholar turned officer at the battle of Antietam on 17 September 1862, where the 20th Maine was held in reserve. History again finds him at Chancellorsville (30 April–6 May 1863) although his unit took no part in the battle. The 20th Maine was assigned to rear guard duty as its ranks were depleted by a smallpox outbreak. Next we find Chamberlain at the Battle of Fredericksburg (11-15 December 1863), specifically the battle at Marye's Heights. It was during this battle that his 20th Maine was forced to spend the night on the battlefield pinned down by Confederate rifle fire, surrounded by dead and dying comrades.

Following this somewhat inauspicious start, his star was about to rise at the battle of Gettysburg. His unit, the 20th Maine regiment, participated in each phase of the battle. As part of General Reynolds' 1st Corps, Chamberlain's brigade, after marching through the night, arrived at Gettysburg and were once again held in reserve behind the entire Union line on Cemetery Hill. After inconclusive fighting, the right flank was now secure. During the night, Chamberlain's brigade was transferred to the far left flank of the Union line. They found themselves once again atop a hill. This time it was Little Round Top.

As luck would have it, the next morning that is exactly where the Confederates chose to attack. All day long the 20th Maine withstood repeated attacks. With his unit sustaining many casualties and out of ammunition during the final Confederate assault, he ordered his unit to charge with bayonets. The surprise assault was successful. The Confederate charge was stopped and over 100 prisoners were taken. He did receive a slight wound, the first of many, during the engagement. For his actions during the battle he gained the moniker 'The Lion of the Round Top'.

His unit was exhausted from heavy fighting, it sustained many casualties, it had no food or water for over

24 hours and were completely out of ammunition. As a reward for their efforts they were reassigned to a "quiet" section of the Federal line - the exact center.

Once again using his common sense, Chamberlain realized that since the enemy had attacked the right flank one day and the left flank the next day, it was logical that they would attack the center the next day. Unfortunately for him, they did. His beleaguered unit was now about to participate in every stage of the battle every day. Again, Chamberlain's unit held the field and won the day. As a reward for his courage, leadership and common sense he was awarded the Medal of Honor thirty years later.

15-18 June 1864 found Chamberlain involved in the Second Battle of Petersburg, specifically the Battle of Lewis's Farm. Chamberlain was shot through the right hip and groin, the bullet exiting his left hip. Despite the injury, Chamberlain withdrew his sword and stuck it into the ground leaning on it to keep himself erect, encouraging his men to stand and not retreat. He stood upright for several minutes until he collapsed and lay unconscious from loss of blood. The Army surgeon declared Chamberlain's wounds to be mortal. Lt. Gen. Ulysses S. Grant awarded Chamberlain a battlefield promotion to the rank of Brigadier General. His obituary was published in many newspapers. Despite his wounds, he survived. After recovering, Grant gave him a division to command. It was one step below a Corps commander. In his memoirs he commented "That he did not have any Virginia blood in him but Virginia had his."

History next finds Chamberlain in action during the siege of Petersburg at the Battle of Quaker Road. During the battle, a Confederate sharpshooter sighted him and fired. Chamberlain was encouraging his horse Charlemagne forward. Charlemagne was somewhat reluctant to advance and reared on his hind legs to display his disapproval. The bullet found its target. But instead of Chamberlain it struck the horse's neck. It then traveled on to the rider and struck Chamberlain squarely in his chest. Chamberlain always carried his field orders in a leather-bound packet inside his coat next to his heart. That day he also carried a brass mirror in the same pocket. The two items deflected the bullet although it did enter his body and left through his back. It then struck his aide riding beside him. Fortunately for the aide, it hit his side arm and knocked him from his horse. Meanwhile, Chamberlain lay next to his wounded horse in a large pool of blood.

When he regained consciousness Brig. Gen Charles Griffin told him he was dying. He mistook the pool of blood for Chamberlain's, not Charlemagne's. Gen Griffin sent word to headquarters of Chamberlain's demise. It was dutifully reported in the newspapers.

As he regained his strength he assessed the situation. With his command wavering under the Confeder-

ate assault. He mounted his wounded horse and returned to the fray. As they advanced Charlemagne again collapsed, this time fatally.

Chamberlain now found himself surrounded by Confederates. He was barely recognizable. He had lost his sword, his hat and his now mud soaked uniform was dripping with blood covering both his rank and his allegiance. Regaining his feet and composure, he ordered the Confederates to follow him and continue their assault on the Union line. "What do you take me for?" he bellowed. "Don't you see these yanks right onto us?" They followed him but soon realized that they were outnumbered and retreated. He commented, "They (the Confederates) did follow me like brave fellows—most of them too far for they were a long time getting back (to their own lines)."

At that time General Lee had broken out of the siege at Petersburg and was leading his beleaguered 26,000 man army in a desperate attempt to join General Joseph Johnson and his 24,000 polyglot army (his force was composed of what was left of the armies of North and South Carolina and Tennessee.) While Chamberlain's unit was recovering from the battle on Lewis Farm road, President Lincoln brevetted Chamberlain to the rank of Major General.

On 29 March 1865, General Lee had discovered a weak spot in the Union lines held by Phil Sheridan's cavalry. He sent General Pickett to exploit the weakness.

After a brief recovery Chamberlain was once again leading his infantry command in pursuit of Lee. In the middle of the night he received word that Sheridan might be in trouble. He hurriedly awakened his sleeping men and told them, if they moved fast enough they could stop Lee's attempt to meet Gen. Johnson and end the war that morning. His men's morale soared and they marched all night. Morning found them on a ridge overlooking the Appomattox river. Below them was an astonished Confederate army. They were expecting to engage Sheridan's cavalry and had not expected to engage a large infantry force.

The battlefield was riddled with small streams feeding the Appomattox River. The Confederates, desperate for food and clothing, short on ammunition and already disheartened by the sight of the Union infantry began their doomed attack. The mele could scarcely be called a battle. Chamberlain described it "Had one had the heart to strike at beings so helpless, the river would have run red with blood."

Both sides recognized the futility of the situation. But both sides consisted of stalwart soldiers, and they fulfilled their obligations. Chamberlain reported the climactic battle as, "Wild work that looks like fighting, but not much killing or even hurting, the disheartened enemy take it easy; our men take them easier". After their brave attempt at battle, the Confederates uniformly threw down their weapons. Chamberlain's orderly, a young boy, asked permission to join the fray. Chamberlain nodded and away the orderly went brandishing his sword. Shortly he returned carrying four more

swords, astonished that his enemy had surrendered so easily.

It was during the battle that Chamberlain spied the two Confederate riders. Not having the authority to accept the surrender and uncertain of what to do next he sent couriers up the chain of command. Word spread quickly and the remaining men under his command rushed forward to witness the surrender. Eventually, a General on Sheridan's staff appeared and asked what the commotion was about. Chamberlain replied, "Only that Lee wants to surrender." The general's reply was "Glory to God." and gave Chamberlain a celebratory slap on the back nearly knocking both of them from their horses.

As he awaited word from headquarters, Confederate General Longstreet approached the Union lines and said, "Gentlemen, I must speak plainly: we are starving over there." Even though the soldiers had little food themselves (after the forced night march) they shared what little they had, a true act of compassion for their fallen but brave foe.

As formal arrangements were being made, on 9 April 1865, Gen. Grant selected Chamberlain to receive Confederate General John B. Gordon's formal surrender at Appomattox. General Robert E. Lee, had already agreed upon the terms of surrender.

On 12 April 1865, the rations that Sheridan had captured were served to both Confederate and Union soldiers. As they ate, a congenial atmosphere developed as the soldiers on both sides mingled and swapped stories and mementos for food, tobacco, knives and shoes. When both sides returned to their respective units for the formal surrender a more somber and bittersweet as the Confederates folded their tents for the last time and despondently broke camp.

Chamberlain marched his men to Appomattox to meet Gordon. Chamberlain did not have the authority to perform his next compassionate act. However, as the vanquished foe shuffled disheartedly towards the assembled Union troops, Chamberlain ordered his troops to perform a salute to them. Chamberlain gave the order, "Carry Arms!" The gallant men of the Union were paying their respects to the gallant men of the Confederacy. Startled, at the sudden sound of rifles, General Gordon bolted upright in his saddle.

Realizing what was taking place, he immediately ordered his men to respond in kind; honor answering honor. The silence was broken only by the sound of marching feet. The Confederate army marched as on review. On the Union side there were no catcalls, no taunts, no cheering or untoward signs of bravado, only reverent silence.

"What visions thronged as we looked into each other's eyes." Chamberlain wrote later. The men on both sides watched each other, lost in their own personal world of reflection. Rifles were stacked, tattered flags were furled for the last time and reluctantly surrendered. The Confederate army now stood beneath the fluttering Stars and Stripes brothers once again.

# HEROIC CHAPLAINS OF WW II

Jim "Ski" Schiaffino

On 23 January 1943, the *SS Dorchester* left New York harbor as part of convoy SG-19, bound for the Army Command Base at Narsarsuaq, Greenland. She was a converted coastal luxury liner, built to accommodate 314 passengers, was pressed into service by the War Shipping Administration. On this trip she was overcrowded, carrying 902 servicemen, merchant seamen and civilian workers. Also aboard were four Army Chaplains: Lt. George Fox a Methodist, Lt. Alexander Goode a Rabbi, Lt. John Washington a Roman Catholic and Lt. Clark Polling a Dutch Reformed minister.

On 3 February, the ship was 150 miles from its destination when shortly after midnight, it was spotted by an officer aboard the German submarine U-223. After identifying and targeting the ship, he gave orders to fire. The hit was decisive, the damage was severe, boiler power was lost, and there was inadequate steam to sound the full 6-whistle signal to abandon ship. The loss of power prevented the crew from sending a radio distress signal, and no rockets or flares were launched to alert the escorts.

The initial blast killed scores of men and seriously wounded many more. A severe list prevented launch of some port-side lifeboats and some lifeboats capsized through overcrowding. Panic and chaos quickly set in among the remaining survivors, stunned by the explosion, as they groped in the darkness. Through the darkness, confusion and bedlam, four men spread out among the soldiers, calming the frightened, tending the wounded and guiding the disoriented toward safety. They were Army chaplains.

Quickly and quietly, the chaplains worked to bring calm to the men. Petty Officer John J. Mahoney, reeling from the cold, headed back towards his cabin. "Where are you going?" a voice of calm in the sea of distressed asked. "To get my gloves," Mahoney replied. "Here, take these," said Rabbi Goode as he handed his gloves to the young officer. "I can't take those gloves," Mahoney replied. "Never mind," the Rabbi responded. "I have two pairs." It was only long after that Mahoney realized that the chaplain never intended to leave the ship.

Once topside, the chaplains opened storage lockers and began distributing life jackets. It was then that Engineer Grady Clark witnessed an astonishing sight. When there were no more lifejackets left, the chaplains simultaneously removed theirs and gave them to four frightened young men. When giving their life jackets, Rabbi Goode did not call out for a Jew; Father Washington did not call out for a Catholic; nor did Fox or Poling call out for a Protestant. They simply gave their life jackets to the next man in line. One survivor would later say, "It was the finest thing I have seen or hope to see this side of heaven."

As the ship went down, survivors in nearby rafts could see the four chaplains, arms linked and braced

against the slanting deck. Their voices could also be heard offering prayers and singing hymns.



Only 230 survived of the 902 men aboard. Before boarding the *Dorchester* in January, Chaplain Poling had asked his father to pray for him, "Not for my safe return, that wouldn't be fair. Just pray that I shall do my duty...never be a coward...and have the strength, courage and understanding of men. Just pray that I shall be adequate."

The Distinguished Service Cross and Purple Heart were later awarded posthumously, Congress wished to confer the Medal of Honor but was blocked by the stringent requirements which required heroism performed under fire. A posthumous special Medal for Heroism, The Four Chaplains' Medal, was authorized by Congress and awarded by the President on 18 January. It was never given before and will never be given again.

## The Sinking of the *SS Henry R. Mallory*

At the start of WW II, one of the most hazardous duties was Convoy Duty. It was perilous for those aboard the convoy ships as they could only sail as fast as the slowest ship. For the Canadian and American escort destroyers it was even more fraught with danger as they patrolled the perimeter of the convoy and could become easy prey for the German U-Boats as they went about their search and destroy responsibilities.

The *SS Henry R. Mallory* was a cargo ship of 6,442 gross tons. She was acquired by the Navy 13 April 1918 and refitted with expanded cooking and toilet facilities and berthing spaces wherever space would allow. In addition to cargo, she could carry about 500 passengers. She also had gun platforms installed for submarine defenses. During World War I, the transport was used to carry the American Expeditionary Force to Europe through the submarine-infested waters.

After the U.S. entered WW II, *SS Henry R. Mallory* was once again used as a troop ship. Only this time, with a Naval Armed Guard detachment on board. The *Mallory* had made several successful voyages to Ireland; Halifax, Nova Scotia; and Iceland.



In early February 1943, “The *Mallory* was part of the 61 ship Convoy SC-118 heading for Liverpool, escorted by nine vessels.

Four days following the sinking of the *Dorchester*, as Convoy SC-118 neared Iceland, a ‘wolfpack’ of approximately 20 Kriegsmarine U-Boats attacked the convoy repeatedly over a four-day period, ultimately sinking 12 Allied ships. The *Mallory* was hit by a torpedo from submarine U-402. Hit in the number three hold on the starboard side, the ship began settling by the stern, listing to port, and sank at about 0730. Of *Mallory’s* ten lifeboats, only three were successfully launched, holding 175 men. Many other men jumped overboard for rafts in the water.

None of the other ships in the convoy were aware of the *Mallory’s* sinking. American Destroyer *Schenck* was searching for survivors of another sunken ship and saw lights but was denied permission to investigate as it was a common ploy among U-Boats to flash lights to draw the escorts into a trap. It was four hours later when the Coast Guard cutter *Bibb* came upon some survivors, was the fate of *Henry R. Mallory* made clear. The *Bibb* rescued 205 men. Another Coast Guard cutter, *Ingham*, rescued a further 22. Of the 477 souls aboard 272 perished.

There were seven chaplains aboard the *Mallory*. Five of whom perished. 1Lt Horace E. Gravely, 1Lt James M. Liston, Capt Ernest W. MacDonald, 1Lt Valmore G. Savignac, and Capt David H. Youngdahl. The two chaplains who survived were Capt Gerald J. Whelan, a Catholic priest, and Capt Ira A. Bentley, a Baptist minister. Chaplains Whelan and Bentley performed a brief burial service for three men rescued from the *Mallory* while the *Bibb* briefly paused in the icy waters after dark, for the service to be quickly performed. Both Chaplains Bentley and Whelan continued to minister to the survivors of the *Mallory*, and the crew of the *Bibb*, until arriving in Iceland.

### Lt Thomas Conway, *USS Indianapolis (CA-35)*

In January 2021, the Navy issued a posthumous Navy Cross to Chaplain Lt. Thomas Conway, who died after the sinking of the *USS Indianapolis (CA-35)*.



Chaplain Conway and his shipmates were serving aboard Portland-class heavy cruiser *Indianapolis* when it was struck by Japanese torpedoes on 30 July 1945. Three-hundred sailors died within 12 minutes of the torpedoes hitting the ship, and 900 sailors ended up in the water when the vessel sank. The sailors spent several days in the water and many, including Conway, died before 316 survivors were rescued.

In the next three days, Thomas Conway swam from group to group of the survivors, encouraging them, inspiring them, offering baptism or last rites. Father

Conway wasn’t a young man, but he gave his all. Three and a half days in the water, nothing to drink, nothing to eat. And yet he went on.

Advocates had long worked to obtain the Navy Cross, which is the service’s second-highest award, for Conway. The service could not award to the chaplain the Navy Cross because no senior officers Conway served with were alive to endorse the bid, as mandated by Navy rules.

Speaking during a ceremony at Lt. Thomas Conway’s church in Waterbury, CT, Navy Secretary Kenneth Braithwaite recounted how the chaplain helped his fellow shipmates after their cruiser sank.

“But I am here today to correct the record and to right a wrong. And I’m also here to send a message that we shall never forget. I want every sailor and every Marine who has served, is serving or will serve, that the Department of the Navy will not forget their courage, their honor, and their commitment,” Braithwaite said. “Today, ladies and gentleman, the Navy is here, I am here, to say that we are sorry,” he continued. “We are sorry for not recognizing the heroism, the dedication, and the valor of one of our own.”



Four Chaplains’ Medal



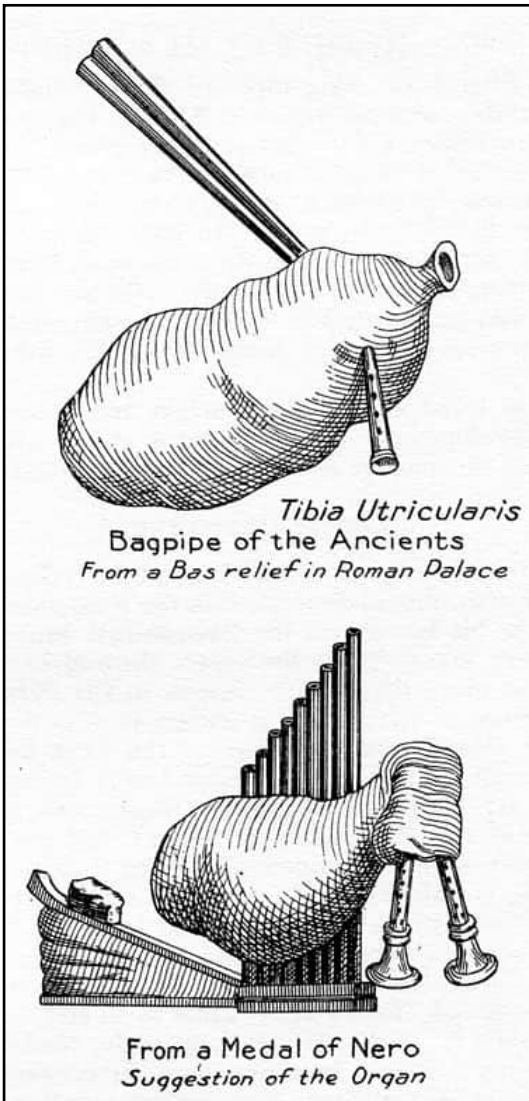
The Navy Cross



# The Evolution of the Scottish Bagpipe

By James Orr, Post 1836

The Scottish bagpipe is a quintessential symbol of Scottish culture, known for its distinctive sound and iconic appearance. Its evolution is deeply intertwined with Scotland's history, traditions, and musical heritage. From its early origins to its contemporary role, the Scottish bagpipe has undergone a remarkable evolution that reflects changes in society, technology, and musical tastes. This article explores the multifaceted journey of the Scottish bagpipe, tracing its development from ancient times to the present day.



The roots of the bagpipe can be traced back to ancient civilizations, where various forms of the instrument were used across different cultures. The concept of using a bag to create a continuous airflow through pipes can be found in civilizations such as ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. These early bagpipes served diverse purposes, ranging from military signaling to ceremonial music.

In Scotland, the early history of the bagpipe is shrouded in myth and folklore. The exact timeline of its introduction is uncertain, but it is believed to have been present in some form since at least the Roman occupation of Britain. The bagpipe's use in Scotland was initially associated with pastoral life and rural communities, where it accompanied festivities, celebrations, and communal gatherings.



A detail from the Cantigas de Santa Maria showing bagpipes with one chanter and a parallel drone (Spain, 13th century).

The bagpipe's prominence grew during the medieval and Renaissance periods. It became an integral part of Scottish culture, with its significance extending beyond mere entertainment. Bagpipers, known as "pipers," began to play crucial roles in various aspects of Scottish society. They provided entertainment at royal courts, accompanied soldiers into battle, and played at important events such as weddings and funerals.

During this era, different types of bagpipes emerged, each with its own regional variations and playing techniques. The Great Highland Bagpipe, characterized by its large size and distinct sound, gained prominence in the Scottish Highlands. Other regional variations included the Border pipes and the Lowland pipes, each contributing to the rich tapestry of Scottish musical heritage.

The 18th and 19th centuries marked significant shifts in the role of the Scottish bagpipe. It became an integral part of military life, particularly in the Highland regiments of the British Army. Bagpipes were used to boost the morale of troops, communicate commands on the battlefield, and evoke a sense of pride and identity among Scottish soldiers.

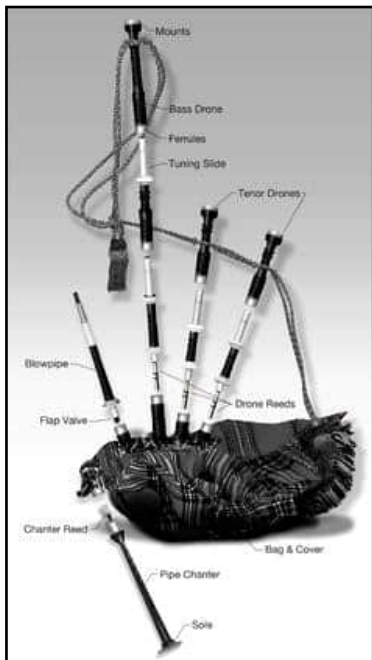
The Scottish diaspora also played a crucial role in the evolution of the bagpipe during this period. As Scots migrated to different parts of the world, they car-



ried their cultural traditions with them, including the bagpipe. This led to the global dissemination of the instrument and its incorporation into various musical genres beyond Scotland's borders.

The 20th century witnessed a revival of interest in traditional Scottish music and culture. The Scottish bagpipe experienced a resurgence in popularity, both within Scotland and internationally. Efforts were made to preserve and promote traditional playing techniques, compositions, and repertoire.

Organizations such as the Piobaireachd Society and the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association (RSPBA) played pivotal roles in standardizing bagpipe music and fostering a sense of community among pipers. The establishment of competitive pipe band events and solo piping competitions further contributed to the preservation of bagpipe traditions.



In recent decades, the Scottish bagpipe has transcended its traditional role, finding its way into contemporary music genres. Fusion bands and collaborations between bagpipers and artists from other genres have resulted in innovative and unexpected musical creations, expanding the instrument's sonic possibilities.

The evolution of the Scottish bagpipe is a testament to the enduring power of cultural heritage and musical tradition. From its ancient origins to its contemporary resurgence, the bagpipe has adapted to changing societal contexts while remaining a symbol of Scottish identity. Its journey reflects the intricate interplay between music, history, and innovation. As the Scottish bagpipe continues to captivate audiences around the world, it stands as a living testament to the rich and vibrant tapestry of Scotland's cultural heritage.

**NOTE:** I am a freelance writer and Scottish Historian. I certify that I am solely responsible for the content in this article and no copyright material is involved.

James Orr R4902. San Antonio, TX Post 1836.

## HONORARY LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP AWARDED TO JOHN J DUNCAN, Jr



The Chief Sponsors for National Tartan Day, were Congressmen Mike McIntyre from North Carolina and John J. Duncan from Tennessee who are the founding co-chairs of the Friends of Scotland Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives. This led in turn to the recognition of Tartan Day Observance on 6 April.

Representative Duncan served as the US Representative for Tennessee's 2nd Congressional district from 1988 to 2018 and is also a Veteran of the USAR and ANG from 1970 to 1987, achieving the rank of Captain.

Retired Congressman Duncan has worked closely with The Saint Andrew's Society of Washington, DC, and the Scottish community to Capitol Hill. Representative Duncan has also worked alongside Honor Air Knoxville who recognized Tennessee Veterans with a flight for their local veterans to the Nation's Capital.

On behalf of The Scottish American Military Society, which was founded here on Grandfather Mountain and later chartered in North Carolina in 1981.

SAMS National Commander, (and Post 1775 PC) Kenneth A. Lloyd awarded John J Duncan, Jr., an Honorary Life Membership (OHL80) into The Scottish American Military Society and presented him with the SAMS Heritage Medal for his outstanding support of the Scottish-American people and Veterans. Through his self-less efforts, Rep. Duncan has made us realize that the Declaration of Arbroath still rings true today:

SAMS and Post 1775 are honored to have Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr. as a member.

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games' President Stephen Quillin and the Board of Directors are honored that you are a *True Scot*, for your dedication and unwavering support to the Scottish American people.

Awarded this day; 8 July 2023, at the 67th Year of the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games



# Why Am I Part Neanderthal?

George Shott, PC 1298

This is a story about the early origins of the inhabitants of the British Isles about the complications and confusions of understanding DNA tests.

In 43AD, Roman legions invaded Britain. One of the four legions in the invasion was the 9th Hispana. Though all legionnaires were Roman citizens, few were actually Italian. Most were from every part of the Roman Empire; Gaul, Spain, North Africa, and other provinces. With the exception of a one-year tour in Germany, the 9th served in Britain from 43AD to its disappearance in 108AD. Of course, for 65 years, the 9th practiced celibacy. Purists in their genealogical quests might be confused to find strains of DNA from weird places. I am not going to wade through the morass of genetics and DNA, but I will start at the beginning which follows the retreat of the last Ice Age from the British Isles.

Brian Sykes, professor of human genetics at Oxford University, nervously drilled into the molar of a long, deceased 20-year-old man. The last food this tooth touched was not pizza or bologna, but the flesh of a reindeer or wild horse. This was not to be an autopsy for a modern crime scene, but the retrieval of possible DNA material from the singular remains of a young hunter, a 'modern' human from approximately 12,000 years ago, after the last Ice Age had receded.



**Cheddarman as found in cave**

In 1986, the young hunter's remains were found in limestone caves at Cheddar Gorge, Somerset, England. In 1996, Sykes began his extraordinary search for the DNA origins of Britain and Ireland with the well-preserved teeth and mandible. The South Kensington Museum was storing the remains of another "Cheddar Man" who had been excavated in 1909. These bones were younger, carbon dated to about 9,000 years ago, though both sets are from 'modern' man.

As old as the "Cheddar Men" are, they were not the

oldest inhabitants of the British Isles. Evidence from other sites revealed that "archaic" hominids had inhabited the Isles, but were not direct ancestors to "homo sapiens". Neanderthal-type sites had been found in Sussex and Wales dating back over 250,000 years. These, also, were not ancestors of Britons.

Approximately 24,000 years ago, a permanent ice cap was building over the British Isles. The seas began to recede as water was locked in the ice sheets. The British Isles became a great peninsula joined to the European continent and the Irish Sea all but vanished. As the ice sheet expanded, the fauna of Britain headed south and, so, the people who subsisted on them. They found refuge in southern France, Italy, and Spain.

Carbon dates from charcoal hearths in northern France show that by 13,000 years ago, our ancestors had already begun to move northward following the wild game migrating back to lands now freed of ice. By 12,000 years ago, hunters had crossed the great plain (a land bridge which once covered the North Sea) and were living in the Cheddar caves. Due to the slowly retreating ice, Britain remained in the Old Stone Age 2,000 years longer than western Europe.

In 1996, the Oxford Genetic Atlas Project discovered, through DNA sampling, that 95% of native Europeans were found to be traceable to 1 of 7 maternal ancestors. In Mesolithic Scotland, four of these matrilineal clans dominate. They are: Helena, Tara, Katrine and Jasmine.

The Helena Clan is 20,000 years old and originated in southern France.

The Katrine Clan dated to approximately 15,000 years ago. The island of Lewis has the highest genetic frequency of Katrine genetic material then anywhere in Scotland.

The Tara and Katrine Clans are common in Norway, but rare in the Orkneys and Shetlands. That rarity is perhaps due to the Norse bringing their women with them to establish settlements and not raiding thereby leaving more Norse male and female DNA.

Tara is approximately 17,000 years old, from northern Italy and the hills of Tuscany. Within Tara there is a younger Tara branch that has two additional genetic changes beyond the two core, distinguishing mutations that make it Clan Tara. The Tara Clan settled all along the coasts, but never inland.

Jasmine is the youngest of the four at 5,000 years old and is predominately located in the Hebrides. Jasmine and Tara brought agriculture. Jasmine herself lived in Syria and her descendants accompanied the spread of agriculture and farming into Europe. The Jasmine Clan is determined by four distinct mutations. As they were spreading from Syria and the Balkans, the clan split into two branches. One branch, 'A' rimmed the Med and moved up the coast into Iberia. They ac-



quired two more genetic mutations which are only found in Ireland and all along the west coast Scotland, Hebrides, Skye, and the Western Isles. Branch ‘B’ worked their way through the forests and valleys of northern Europe.

The DNA shows a genetic mutation occurs approximately once every 20,000 years and so, using the number of mutations that originally separated each group, they were also able to place the clan mothers by time period. To determine where the clan lived, scientists looked at where the evidence is currently concentrated, where the greatest number of additional mutations occurred (reasoning that the clan would stay with or around where the clan mother lived) and whether the predicted area was habitable at the time associated with its origins.

In the Western Isles, Skye, and Scotland, the male/female ratio has 2x as many Norse Y-chromos as female mDNA. As the Norse moved further down the coast, the fewer Norse dna/y-chromosomes there were, and still are a 2:1 male vs. female ratio. In Argyll, the ratio is 7% male and 2% female. 60% of the Shetlands/Orkneys who do not have Viking ancestry are Picts. They were displaced further and further north until they ran out of land.

MacDonald, McDougall and MacAlister surnames have long claimed descendancy (Y-chromosome) from the Celtic hero, Somerled. Their claims have been proven by the blood of five living clan chiefs! Direct paternal descendants of Somerled in Scotland and worldwide are; MacDonald= 25%, McDougall= 33%, and MacAlister= 40%.

North of Perth, near Dunkeld on the banks of the River Tay, the site of the Abbey of Scone, Kenneth MacAlpin was crowned the first king of a united Scotland in 843. Dunkeld was the central stronghold of Pictish kings and Kenneth, a Gael from the west, deliberately chose Scone for coronation to portray unity between Picts and Celts.

When tracing ancestry, consider that everyone receives an X-chromosome from their mother, but only males receive a Y-chromosome from their father. Most DNA exists inside the nucleus of one’s cells; attached to the chromosomal copies provided by each parent. Outside the nucleus, yet within the wall of the cell, is liquid cytoplasm which contains microscopic particles called mitochondria (mDNA) which regulate aerobic metabolism and mutate, approximately, 20 times more often than nuclear DNA. Every offspring receives one set of nuclear genes from each parent but *All* mDNA comes from their mum. Why? Space. Sperm have about 100 mitochondria in the mid-piece (connects head with tail) which use their aerobic energy to power the tail’s movement. Once a sperm penetrates the much larger ova (2,500:1 size ratio), female mitochondria overpower and destroy their male counterparts. By matching genetic mutations in the mDNA scientists can prove female ancestry: All mDNA is from the mother who received her mDNA from her mother, et cetera.

The X-chromosome is about five times longer than the Y-chromosome and has about 1,000 working genes. The small Y-chromosome has only 27 obviously working genes. It has long sequences of amino acids that, to current scientists, appear to be doing nothing. One of the 27 working genes, however, is the one which determines whether a child will be male. All embryos begin life as females and all would be born female except for the awakening of one gene. It lies dormant in the frenetic first six weeks of gestation but awakens and stimulates genes and sequences on other chromosomes with directions to develop to a male being. This only occurs in the presence of one gene on only the Y-chromosome which, in turn, comes only from the father and from his father, et cetera. As with mDNA, it is the mutations on the Y-chromosome which prove out the patrilineal ancestry.

Distribution of Maternal Clans in Scotland (%)								
	Argyll	Borders	No. Isles	Tayside	Grampian	Highland	Hebrides	Strathclyde
Jasmine	6.5	19.4	10.8	15.3	20.6	13.1	14	14
Tara	9.8	2.8	7.7	10.2	6.1	10.6	13.6	15.5
Katrine	9.8	5.6	5.1	6.1	6.1	4.5	14.4	7.2
Helena	51.2	41.7	53.1	47.4	46.7	38.9	31.6	44.9
Distribution of Paternal Clans in Scotland (%)								
	Argyll	Borders	No. Isles	Tayside	Grampian	Highland	Hebrides	Strathclyde
Oisin	81.1	78.1	59.9	78.9	83.5	75.9	71.2	73.3
Wodan	3.8	12.5	16.8	17.5	11.8	16.5	17.8	20.0
Siguard	7.5	3.1	19.8	1.8	2.4	6.3	11.0	4.2
Esu	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.8	2.4	1.3	0.0	1.7
Re	5.7	4.7	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Mapping Y-chromosome genetic mutations was more difficult for the males. Only five principle clans are defined. Each was started by a single man but the location and time of their life is more speculative.

Sykes worked with 2,414 Y-chromosome gene groups sorting them into associated clans. Five distinct male clans were identified in the British Isles to their common ancestor, the clan founder.

Oisín shows up around 7,300 years ago. The others, Wodan, Siguard, Eshu, and Re, follow in the variations shown above from Scandinavia through Norway, Shetlands, and Orkneys. Each gene is a treasure; a family heirloom carried within the body of ancient parents. They had mates and children who benefited from shared knowledge or skills so that survival was their legacy and our reward.

Ursula mDNA clan - 9,200 years ago (slightly older in Ireland). Paternal clans slightly older than Ireland, but much younger than maternal ones

North coast/Caithness, male/female ration 15% DNA, settled as families.

Picts and Celts- same underlying genetic origins

A rare Y-chromo profile was found in Skye sampling and, when compared with elsewhere in Scotland, discovered it was associated with the MacD's, Mc Doug's and Mac Al's who claim descendancy to Somerled, the Celtic hero who over-powered the Norse Earl of Orkney and Earl of Argyll and the Hebrides.

Sykes and his team then collaborated with a local TV station to conduct an experiment to see if "Cheddar Man" could possibly match a modern man from the area. The local school provided the volunteers and DNA samples were taken. When the tests were complete, everyone met anxiously awaiting the results. With cameras rolling across nervous faces of students until it was determined that no one matched "Cheddar Man"...except the history teacher, Adrian Taggart. Taggart closely matched the 12,000 year-old DNA. He became an overnight sensation appearing in most of the national newspapers



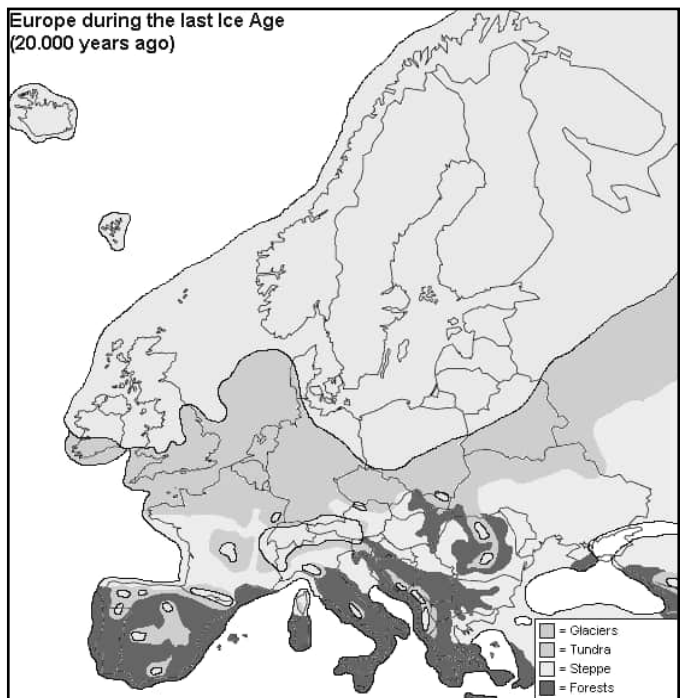
Adrian Taggart posing with his 12,000 year old ancestor

The Miocene Period dated from 2.6 million to 11,700 years ago. Approximately 24,000 years ago, the mild period between glacial cycles started to come to an end. Each year saw the temperatures falling and seasonal snow was not melting in the mountains. A permanent

ice cap was building. The seas began to recede as water was locked into the ice sheets.

Britain and Ireland were among the last regions of Europe to be colonized by modern humans after the last glacial period. The geographical location of Ireland has made the migration of homo sapiens from there minimal. However, the land bridge connecting the British Isles to Europe, beckoned roaming hunters and gatherers resulting in some genetic surprises for all British and Irish descendants. The Mesolithic origin theories are well-established by many geneticists and scientists.

Sykes provides compelling evidence for significant immigration from the Iberian peninsula into Britain and Ireland. So many British/American ancestor/genealogy researchers are mystified to find "Neanderthal" links in their background.



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# SAMS on Parade



Post 1806 (S Colorado) gathered at the Casey home for a summer cook-out just to get back together again. L-R: VC Jack Casey, Jay Mackay, Nathan Gamer, Karen Martin, Don Guyton, Gordon Dixon, PC John Russell, Chris Boughn.



Post 1921 Color Guard for opening and closing 157th Annual Highland Games, Pleasanton, CA. L-R: XO Dave Reynolds, John Ralls, Jim Hamilton, Paul Baxter, Mike Medeiros



SW Region 14 Commanders Booth, Flagstaff Highland Games, July 2023. L-R: Post 81 Sarah Barrett & daughter, Patty & Mark Ballinger, Alfa Co. Adj Gordon Walker, Aux Lead Allison Stoner, Sean Stoner, RC14 Allan & Judith Sperling, Travis, Natalie & Martin Goes, Honor Guard CDR Kiven Hardison, Alfa Co. CDR Guy Peabody, Suzi & Alex Wilson. Front: Rachel Barrett & Family





Post 81 Bravo Co. CDR David Barnhill and Honor Guard CDR Kiven Hardison folding the US Flag at the services for Lester Johnson, WWII Submariner.



Post 100 Color Guard.

L-R: Comp Frank Merrill, past PC Gary Marshall, VC Bob Burnham, Bill Colby, Asst Nat Adj/Comp and Post Adj Mike Thomas, PC Jim Rairdon.

Below, Post 81 PC Allan Sperling presenting the flag to Lester's daughter and family. Alfa Co. Adj. Gordon and the Colors detail in the background.



Post 1298 Mike Belcher, Guy Niles, Rick Briggs, George Shott for Unaccompanied Veteran Burial, 13 September



2nd Annual Post 81 Skydive in commemoration of National Airborne Day. L-R: Al & Suzanne from Esperanza En Escalante, PC Allan Sperling, Andy Collins, Chief Richard McBain, Alfa Adj Gordon Walker, Aux Leader Allison Stoner and Lilla Barrett.





1775 Port City Games. L-R Victor St Pierre, Chance Panter, Frank Ballentine, Erica Fincher, Scott Powell



1775 PC Lloyd presenting Honorary Lifetime Membership to Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr (photo James Schaffer)



1775 members at Post tent, Greenville Scottish Games



1775 Color Guard marching in the Great Scott Parade in Greenville, SC

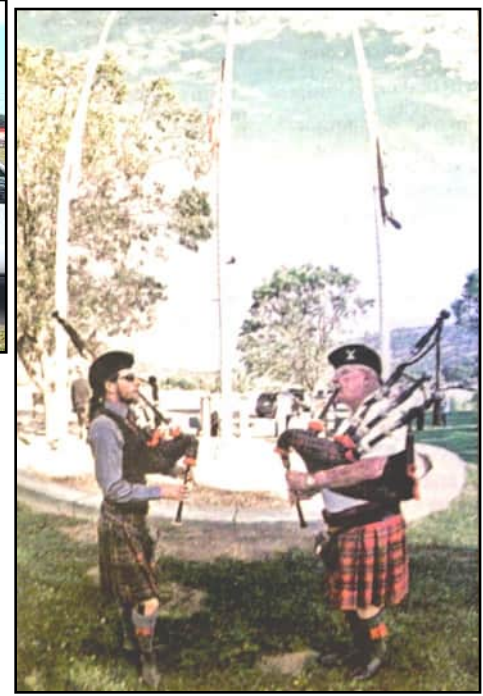


Oxford, NC Central Carolina Children's Highland Games, L-R: Timothy Horsley, Mike Labny, PC Ken Lloyd, Adj Frank Ballentine, Marshall Perry



Post 1775, all of the usual suspects in what might be called 'the charge of the flag brigade'...mostly in step.





Post 1298 Belton, TX 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade with the Austin City Highlanders Bagpipe Band. Wone 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the non-profit category for Most Original Best Use of the Parade Theme. We were mentioned by all the announcers on local television. The Belton Chamber of Commerce President asked me where to send the check. I said, "What check?". We also won \$100.00!

9/11 Remembrance, Tehachapi, CA  
L-R: Travis Combs, Post 1921 James Carmichael. (photo from newspaper)



Post 1847 APT US&C Convention  
L-R: Connie Carlson, Robb Timmore, piper Sande Storm, Nichole Thompson, PC Ken Sorensen

Post 1847 Payson Scot Fest. L-R: Connie Carlson, PC Ken Sorensen, Nichole Thompson, John Roberts



Post 1847 Utah Highland Games  
L-R: PC Ken Sorensen, Connie Carlson, Nichole Thompson



Post 1847 Memorial Day  
L-R: Connie Carlson, Nichole Thompson, PC Ken Sorensen

# Regional Commander's Report

## 1. NEW ENGLAND

### MAINE:

### NEW HAMPSHIRE:

### VERMONT:

### MASSACHUSETTS:

### RHODE ISLAND:

### CONNECTICUT:

—Gene Chisholm Jones, RC, cwo4bosun@aol.com

## 2. NEW YORK.

—William Wolf, RC, wdwolf@ix.netcom.com

## 3. KEYSTONE

### PENNSYLVANIA:

### NEW JERSEY:

—Bill Johnson, RC, usscout15690@aol.com

## 4. MID ATLANTIC

### DELAWARE

### MARYLAND/VIRGINIA:

### WASHINGTON DC

—Bill Johnson, RC, usscout15690@aol.com

## 5. S. ATLANTIC

### GEORGIA:

### NORTH CAROLINA:

### SOUTH CAROLINA:

This has been a busy time in the Region. The first weekend of May I had the pleasure of visiting with Post 7 in Savannah, GA and marching with their Color Guard. I was told by observers that they really looked sharp! I really appreciated their hospitality.

The last weekend of May we had the Greenville Scottish Games, held on the Furman University Campus, one of the top games in this region. On Friday evening, Post 1775 provided the Color Guard for the Great Scots Parade on Main Street. This parade always draws a big crowd. It was unusually cold and windy but everyone seemed to have a good time. Post 1775 provided the Color Guard for the opening ceremony with a great display of National and Service flags. The Post also recruited several new members.

There were no Games in the region during June. However, on the weekend following July 4th, one of the oldest and largest games in the country was held at Grandfather Mountain. 1775 provided the Color Guard for the first time in many years. The crowd got a real fine display of marching and flags. 1775 recruited quite a few new members for National and the Post.

—Lachlan Hyatt, RC, lachlanhyatt1@hotmail.com

## 6. GULF STATES

### FLORIDA:

### ALABAMA:

### LOUISIANA:

### MISSISSIPPI:

—Charlie Kehm, RC, chkclangunflorida@gmail.com

## 7. GREAT LAKES

### WEST VIRGINIA:

### OHIO:

### INDIANA:

### MICHIGAN:

—Steven Smith, RC, samsregion7cdr@gmail.com

## 8. DAKOTA REGION

### NEBRASKA

### SOUTH DAKOTA

### NORTH DAKOTA

—Ronald D Hunter, RC, ron@niobraracarriage.com

## 9. HAWKEYE VALLEY

### NORTHERN ILLINOIS:

### IOWA:

### WISCONSIN:

### MINNESOTA:

—Matthew Heffron, RC, matt.heffron@spatz.org

## 10. MISSOURI VALLEY

### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS:

### MISSOURI:

### KANSAS:

—Walter M. Watt, RC, wmwatt50@hotmail.com

## 11. TENNESSEE VALLEY

### TENNESSEE:

### KENTUCKY:

### ARKANSAS:

—William J Frazer, RC, lovatscot@aol.com

Aide: John Byington, Byington\_J@holston-aap.com

## 12. TEXAS / OKLAHOMA

### TEXAS:

### OKLAHOMA:

—Bill Stevens, RC, cptvill86@gmail.com

## 13. ROCKY MOUNTAIN

### COLORADO:

### NEW MEXICO:

—Maggie Rothermel, RC, upland.weyr@gmail.com

## 14. SOUTHWEST

### ARIZONA:

### NEVADA:

### UTAH:

With the summer in the southwest, most of the Posts have been active in various activities and getting the Scottish American Military Society noticed. As we no longer have a Post or Camp in Flagstaff, several members of Post 81, traveled to Flagstaff to support the Scottish Festival and Highland Games. We set up a SW Region Commanders Booth and provided the Honor Guard for the opening of the games on both Saturday and Sunday. We also performed the Escort duties for McBain of McBain. Bill Walters from Post 1314 made an appearance on Sunday and set up in the booth with a Wreaths Across America donation display. While we had hoped to escape to cooler climes in the high country, it was unseasonably hot with little to no breeze. but we still managed to recruit three new members to SAMS, and one old member who renewed. Two were

in Flagstaff, one for Prescott, and one in Grand Junction, CO, which made the trip and efforts worthwhile. Let's hope we can get another Camp or Post up there we can help support next year.

—Allan D. Sperling, RC, [cderswregion14@gmail.com](mailto:cderswregion14@gmail.com)

## 15. NORTHWEST

**ALASKA:**

**WASHINGTON:**

**IDAHO:**

**OREGON:**

New members in Idaho, looking forward to application for a Camp.

—Rob Donaldson, RC, [claughmohr@gmail.com](mailto:claughmohr@gmail.com)

## 16. WEST

**CALIFORNIA**

**NORTHERN NEVADA**

**HAWAII:**

Post 1921 events picking up. Color Guards looking forward to multiple Veterans Day Parades in Northern California.

Reno Post 1864 is busy getting reorganized.

—VACANT

Aide: Chuck Jamison, [oakpiper@gmail.com](mailto:oakpiper@gmail.com)

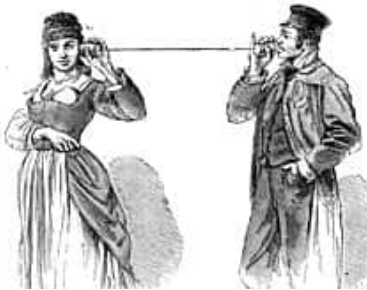
## 17. BIG SKY

**MONTANA: .**

**WYOMING:**

We finally have new members in Montana and hope to get a Camp up and running soon.

—The position of RC 17 is still open.



## A NOTABLE ANCESTOR

William R Hinderer R5712, states his ancestor was General William Maxwell, a Scot, born in Northern Ireland, his family settled in Warren County, New Jersey in 1747. He enlisted in the militia in the French and Indian war, attaining the rank Lieutenant. When the Revolution broke out, he was commissioned as Colonel of the 2nd New Jersey Regiment, sent to Quebec under General John Sullivan in early 1776. Promoted to Brigadier General, Maxwell returned to New Jersey to join General Washington's army.

In August 1777, he was assigned to organize and command a provisional Corps of Light Infantry, culling 100 of the best troops from each of the army's ten brigades.

In May 1778, Washington sent General Maxwell with four New Jersey regiments and two pieces of artillery to reinforce the New Jersey militia. Maxwell's troops were among those harassing the British as they crossed New Jersey to New York, and were involved in the Battle of Monmouth.

In 1780 his troops were stationed on guard duty outside New York, and were called out to repulse two British advances on the main army base at Morristown in the June battles at Springfield and Connecticut Farms.

Maxwell, apparently feeling he was inadequately recognized for his contributions, tendered his resignation to Congress in 1780 in the hopes that he would be rewarded. However, Congress accepted his resignation, ending his military career. He tried to get reinstated, but was unsuccessful. After the war he served one term in the New Jersey state legislature, but did not notably distinguish himself.

He died on 4 November 1796, while visiting a friend in Landsdown, New Jersey. He is buried in the Old Greenwich Presbyterian Churchyard in Greenwich Township, Warren County, New Jersey.



## KERR'S IMPORTS

[wpaul@best1.net](mailto:wpaul@best1.net)

805-345-9680

William Paul

P.O. Box 583

Congress, AZ 85332



# A Swath from the Fabric of History

Weeden Nichols MAL

I like to write about things about which I like to write. So there!

My starting point is European royalty. The royal families of Britain, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Spain, and Monaco are closely (in genealogical terms) related, all going back to George II. In more distant terms, the roster of related European royals includes even more countries. George IV is essential to this essay, but the essay is not *about* George IV. We, on this side of the ocean, remember George III, with whom we Americans of The Colonies could not find common ground (partly due to the mental illness of George III). George VI became regent during the final stages of the reign of George III, when it was clear to all that he was unfit, and George IV succeeded upon his father's death.

There is much that can be said about George IV – mostly good, actually. Though not much to look at – he possessed a high intellect and was a positive influence in architecture and the arts, etc. But, though king of a United Kingdom that included Scotland, he apparently had never been to Scotland. (Don't be too hard on George IV. An English monarch, though king of Scotland, had never visited Scotland in two centuries.) Sir Walter Scott, author of so many popular romantic Highland novels, orchestrated and choreographed a visit by George IV to Edinburgh. (Probably improved his book sales.) It would be an understatement to term the visit a "gala" event. Inasmuch as Sir Walter Scott had romanticized Scotland and brought the kilt into public awareness, the event was to be a full-tilt full-kilt affair. (The kilt never had been a really big thing in Scotland in general.)

With all the hullabaloo associated with the proposed visit in 1822 of George IV to Edinburgh (which, ultimately, went off quite well, in accordance with the orchestration/choreography by Sir Walter Scott), I think one of the most interesting (at least to American Scots like me) elements was the role of two total imposters ("scam" artists in present-day language). A pair of brothers (born in Wales, sons of an English naval officer, named John and Charles Allen) represented themselves as grandsons of Charles Edward Stuart ("Bonnie Prince Charlie").

The reader has to understand that, before 1822, it would have been unlikely for anyone to think that a certain tartan was *the* tartan of a certain clan, though in some cases a certain design might have been quite commonly associated with a certain clan. (The closest such association of which I know is the yellow tartan of MacLeod of Lewis.)

Continuing with John and Charles Allen, in furtherance of their scam the older brother changed his name to John Sobieski Stuart (Sobieski being the name of a great-grandfather of "Bonnie Prince Charlie"), The younger brother had the nerve to rename *himself*

"Charles Edward Stuart" (the name of "Bonnie Prince Charlie.") The brothers claimed to have come into the possession of a rare or one-of-a-kind book that illustrated the tartan of *each particular clan*. They published their own volumes, supposedly based upon the never-seen-by-anyone volume: *Vestiarium Scotium* and *The Costume of the Clans*. Some of the designs were tartans heretofore somewhat associated with a particular clan. Others were out-and-out forgeries (but not bad designs, inasmuch as the brothers were excellent artists), which the brothers represented as the tartans of specific clans. The soon-to-be-burgeoning tartan and kilt industry was based largely on these volumes.

As plans for the gala celebration developed, and as promoted by Sir Walter Scott, it became more and more expected that the chief of each clan would attend, wearing *the* tartan of his clan. Probably, many of the chiefs had never donned a kilt before (but probably none appeared as ridiculous as George IV in his short kilt and pink tights). It must have been a bonanza for the wool and tailoring industries in Scotland; however, for this particular event, it must have entailed deadlines that were hard to meet.

Presumably, some of the designs which are now the tartans of some clans, were among the forgeries by the brothers, who are now generally known as the "Sobieski Stuarts." It is likely that the brothers also located kilted portraits of present and past chiefs of some clans, simply copied the tartan pattern, and assigned the result as *the* tartan of that chief's clan. I should note that the colors used in tartan wool cloth in Highland and Island localities probably were influenced by the natural dyes available locally.

I think I can safely say that we are partly indebted to the "Sobieski Stuarts" for the "clan tartans" that make our Scottish festivals so colorful, and make the clan affiliations which many of us hold so dear, so visibly bright, clear and specific. And perhaps we are just as indebted to Sir Walter Scott. Maybe, also, we are somewhat indebted to King George IV. The only excuse I can muster for this essay is that I



# Post Exchange

## Post 1, (Alexander-Mercer) Philadelphia, PA

—Chris Sommers, PC, [chmsomm@@comcast.net](mailto:chmsomm@@comcast.net)

## Post 2, (Post of the Potomac)

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer. Coming up this Fall and Winter, we will be at the Virginia Scottish Games, Labor Day weekend, providing the Armed Forces service Color Guard at the WWII Memorial in DC on Veterans Day and will be in the Annual Scottish Christmas Walk 2 December in Alexandria, VA.

The Scottish Walk is a fantastic event with six Pipe & Drum corps, numerous Scottish and Celtic societies marching through Olde Town Alexandria. So, if you're in the area or planning a trip, give our Post a call to help make your trip more enjoyable.

—Mark Wardlaw, PC, [bnvremodel@yahoo.com](mailto:bnvremodel@yahoo.com)

## Post 7, (Lt. Hugh McKay) Savannah, GA

—Walt Harper, PC, [wfh31307@hotmail.com](mailto:wfh31307@hotmail.com)

## Post 10, (BG Jimmy Stewart) Los Angeles, CA

—Greg Nutt, PC, [airforcevet@gregrnutt.com](mailto:airforcevet@gregrnutt.com)

## Post 26, SE Michigan

—Kevin Riddell, PC, [riddellk9@gmail.com](mailto:riddellk9@gmail.com)

## Post 48, (Col Alexander O. Brodie) Phoenix, AZ

Except for July and August, meeting 2nd Tuesday of the month at the IHOP in Glendale.

—Carlos Gomez, PC, [cgit54@gmail.com](mailto:cgit54@gmail.com)

## Post 60, (Gen Elijah Clark) Atlanta, GA

—Rick Conn, PC, [rickconn@bellsouth.net](mailto:rickconn@bellsouth.net)

## Post 75, (Minuteman) W. MA, W. CT

—Andrew Lyons, PC, [andrewjlyons@yahoo.com](mailto:andrewjlyons@yahoo.com)

## Post 76, (Patrick Henry) Yorktown, VA

—Tom Metz, PC, [tmetz2666@verizon.net](mailto:tmetz2666@verizon.net)

## Post 77 (Paul Gillman) Delmont, PA (Provisional)

—Doug R. Fulton PC, [fulton12b@yahoo.com](mailto:fulton12b@yahoo.com)

## Post 81, (Archie McIntosh) Southern, AZ

On Memorial Day, the Post Honor Guard presented the Colors and laid a wreath at the Eastlawn Cemetery Ceremony. Post members also laid wreaths at Southlawn and Evergreen Cemeteries in Tucson, and Bravo Co. members in Sierra Vista participated in the Southern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery Flag Ceremony. It was a busy day for us.

On 4 June, we held our first Meet & Greet at Monsoons Tap & Grill. The purpose was to raise awareness of the Scottish American Military Society and sell raffle tickets for the firearm we were raffling along with several door prizes. The event was a resounding success, bringing needed funds into our coffers along with everybody having a great time.

July 4th was another busy day for us. Bravo Co. provided the Honor Guard for the Palominas 4th of July Parade, while others manned a Recruiting/Info Booth at the Sierra Vista Independence Day Celebration. At the same time, Alfa Co. manned a booth at the Marana 4th Celebration and provided the Honor Guard

for their evening patriotic celebration and fireworks display. Our efforts brought in four new members between Alfa and Bravo Companies.

15-16 July found several Post members at the Flagstaff, Highland Celtic Festival. As there is not a current Post or Camp in Flagstaff, we set up a SW Region booth and provided the Honor Guard and escorted McBain of McBain both days. It was unseasonably hot at 7,000' with little to no breeze.

On 28 July, Post members had the honor of presenting the colors at Ft. Huachuca for the 100th birthday celebration, for Jerry Consiglio (Army), Normandy Invasion survivor. Jerry is feisty and still going strong!

August 2nd had Bravo Co. holding their first Meet & Greet at Doc's Watering Hole, in Sierra Vista. Again, promoting SAMS and raffling firearms to raise money for the Company and the Post. It was also very successful. The owners of Doc's are both Army veterans and they joined SAMS that evening.

Within a week of celebrating a significant milestone for one WWII veteran, in Sahuarita, on 4 August, the HG provided a colors presentation, flag folding, and Taps bugler for Lester Johnson, who passed at 97 and was a WWII Submarine veteran. As a former submariner, it was my distinct honor to present the flag to his daughter.

10 August found us at another Meet & Greet in Tucson (are you noticing a trend here?) at the 1912 Brewery. Once again, we sold raffle tickets for a firearm, along with door prizes and added additional funds to the account.

Finally, on 19 August, we conducted our 2nd Annual Post Skydive in commemoration of National Airborne Day. We had eight jumpers, six from the Post, including Richard McBain, Chief of Clan McBain, and two from Esperanza En Escalante, a veterans transitional housing program we help support. All made it safely back to Mother Earth and then we celebrated with food and drink provided by our excellent ground crew made up of Post members and members of the Tucson Celtic Festival Association (TCFA).

—Allan Sperling, PC, [samspost81@gmail.com](mailto:samspost81@gmail.com)

## Post 100, (MGen Keith L. Ware, Jr.) CO

—James Rairdon, PC, [rairdon8071@comcast.com](mailto:rairdon8071@comcast.com)

## Post 116, Central/Western, VA

—Ray Burton PC, [ray.burton.vmi73@gmail.com](mailto:ray.burton.vmi73@gmail.com)

## Post 131, (ADM Franklin Buchanan) Jacksonville, FL

—PC,

## Post 328, (Alvin C. York) Knoxville, TN

—Bill Wade PC, [billwade7@gmail.com](mailto:billwade7@gmail.com)

## Post 711, (Tom Moran Memorial) Bolder City, NV

All is well in the Post. We have curtailed our events due to extreme heat conditions that have been between 100 – 118 degrees! Too hot for us old guys and even the younger ones.

But we have continued to support the unaccompanied services at the Veterans Cemetery in Boulder City. These are normally held every Thursday morning, unless there are no internments. I want to express my gratitude and thanks to Grant Howells, 32 years with the Royal Australian Army and retired as a Regimental Sergeant Major; Tom Whitcomb Trustee, Danny McDonald Finance Officer/Chaplain; and Mike Barth Quartermaster, for their steadfast support, and Zane Simpson, Piper, when available.

And, of course, our monthly shoots and after when we retire to the Leatherneck Club for some liquid refreshment, and possibly some food.

VC Bob Garlow continues to serve as the Chairman of the Nevada Veterans Assistance League (NVAL), a 501 c3 which was formed to provide special needs support to the residents of the Southern Nevada State Veterans Home. His wife Sue is the Treasurer, and PC Gilmore is a Board member. Bob is also Chairman of the Nevada Department of Veterans Services Independent Review Panel, which is an appointment from the Executive Director. This is an oversight panel that reports to the Executive Director, the Veterans Advisory Committee, and the Governor, and is advisory to the Veterans Home Administrator.

So far this year we have completed 40 events to our credit! The Post wishes all Better Days Ahead and God Bless! Yours Aye!

Submitted by: —*Bob Garlow, VC,*  
*bobsuegarlow64@embarqmail.com,* for,  
—*Ed Gilmore, PC, 702-301-4080*

**Post 777, (777th Highlanders)** Las Vegas, NV  
—*Tesha Seawell, PC, akhalteke88@yahoo.com*

**Post 808, (Princess V Ka'iulani)** Honolulu, Hawaii  
—*Tim Cooke, PC, kona.tim@hotmail.com.*

**Post 1297, (Arizona Highlanders)** Prescott, AZ  
Our meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month at the Museum of Indigenous People in Prescott

We continue to support local US Veterans Prescott Chapter, with monetary donations and a clothing drive.

In the July, Prescott Frontier Days Parade we had a Color Guard and two vehicles.

—*Chris Lamberton, PC, chris@vaildunlap.com*

**Post 1298, (SGT John MacGregor)** Central Texas  
I found out some awful news when my wife wondered if there was anything significant about our Post number so I checked it out. 1298 was generally a slow year with a lot of action in Prussia/Germany. However, one item brought me up short. In July of that year, Edward 'Longshanks' the English king, defeated William Wallace at the Battle of Falkirk. It was a very bad day for Sir William. So I supposed our Post will use that information proudly to remember Sir William. Perhaps other Posts should see what happened in the year of that organization's number.

We participated in the Belton 4th of July Parade one of the longest running and longest parades in Texas. This year we were pleased to have the Austin City Highlanders Bagpipe Band join us to lead our float.

While we were walking to the start line several of us walked behind the band and decided to continue for 2.5 miles. We had great interaction with the crowd, personally thanking police and veterans as we walked by. Just before we reached the line, the other members of the band joined us, quickly moved into formation and began playing. As we crossed the start line, the crowd went wild and that reception continued for the whole parade. Toward the end of the parade, I was told to check out the back of our float. Rick Briggs, watching our six, handed me a huge trophy – I mean huge! It was for 1st Place in the non-profit category for Most Original Best Use of the Parade Theme. Talk about our feet not touching the ground. We were mentioned by all the announcers on local television. Our creds have definitely increased. Two hours after I penned this report, I received a call from the Belton Chamber of Commerce President who asked me where to send the check. I said, "What check?". We also won \$100.00!

I am planning an Awards dinner, for our members and families as well as the Austin City Highlanders for their contribution to our achievement. We now start planning for the 62nd Annual Salado Scottish Games and Gathering.

Rick Briggs and I were present at two Unaccompanied Veteran's burials, 30 August for PFC James W. Copeland. He was born 2 July 1956 and served in the Army from 6 April, 1978 - 10 July 1980. He received both the Marksmanship and Sharpshooter badges.

The second, on 13 September for Army Specialist (SP5) Travis M. Black, born 10 January 1947. He served from 11 April 1966 - 15 February 1969. His awards are the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal. Two more of our members, Mike Belcher, and Guy Niles joined us.

Our quarterly meeting was busy. I presented six members with our Post's local Outstanding Participation awards, which if you look in the SAMS Promotional Materials Portfolio shows our medal – a small dark blue squarish device with a circular shield on white with crossed swords. For multiple awards an oak leaf is added. Three members received the award for the first time, one received the medal with one oak leaf, two received their third oak leaf, and three received the silver oak leaf.

We reviewed the Clan Village site plan for the 62nd Annual Salado Scottish Gathering. Already 37 clans have registered including four new entries. Normally, the Games have 45 clans present. Promotional material were handed out for members to distribute.

—*George Shott, PC. shottgeorge@gmail.com*

**Post 1314, (Granite Mountain Highlanders),**  
Prescott Valley, AZ

On 10 June, Mike Breedlove opened his home for a fantastic picnic and social event for new prospective members and the Post. We had tournament games, great BBQ, delicious side dishes, and wonderful socializing all afternoon in the Prescott pines on a beautiful day. Thank you, Mike Breedlove and your lovely wife for sharing your home in the mountains around Pres-

cott.

On 1 July, we participated in the Frontier Day Parade in Prescott. We had four Color Guard marching, and a highly decorated Jeep and trailer with more members. At the Palace Saloon and Restaurants we had a booth for a membership drive. It was a beautiful day and the crowd was in high spirit. Thank you to everyone that participated in the parade and booth.

At the Prescott Courthouse Plaza on 19 August, we participated in The Hope Fest. There was a Car and Motorcycle Show around the Plaza, Christian music all over the Plaza, beautiful weather, a great turnout, membership, and Wreaths Across America had the best response for this year so far. Thanks you to everyone that participated.

—Don Klien, PC, donaldklien62@gmail.com

**Post 1739, (The Frontiersmen) South Central PA**

—Mike Wertz, PC, mmwertz23@gmail.com

**Post 1775, (Col Patrick Ferguson) N. & S. Carolina**

We had great April and May Games, recruiting four at the Central Carolina Children's Highland Games in Oxford, NC. On 13 May, at Badin Celtic Festival we recruited another four with three being female veterans and Athletes. We added this Game and the Central Carolina Children's Highland Games onto our Calendar for 2024. Greenville Games and Great Scott Parade on 26-27 May proved again to be amazing with lots of recruits. Our Color Guard performed above and beyond, and we had over 14 members on the field in two lines. The crowd went wild when they saw us carrying all the flags and the breeze cooperated with every flag unfurled and waving at a salute. The Directors loved our presentation, and we had a tent full of recruits until closing. We recruited two female veterans who were participating in the Athletics competition, Erica Fincher, and Trish Jones. The day's total was 10 for the Post and two MALs. We beat our last year total of seven.

On 4 June, Adj Frank Ballentine took the Color Guard to Wilmington, NC for the Port City Games, a new event for us. We recruited six new members. It was Wilmington's second game, and we were honored to do opening ceremonies as Color Guard. We had another standing ovation while on the field because our member, Victor St. Pierre, USMC Gunnery Sgt. a 98 year old, marches with our Color Guard.

In July we traveled to the birthplace of SAMS, the 67th Grandfather Mountain Games in Linville, NC. That mountain has been considered sacred ground for our Post. This year our PC made sure we were invited to participate with the regular Color Guard, the Losantiville Highlanders, sharing the duties and finally setting foot on that field. The crowd cheered us on, and our tent filled to capacity with those attending to congratulate us on a job well done. We wound up recruiting 27 members and 18 MALs. One SAMS member came from Arizona, Henry G. Johnson, Post 81 to meet NC, and Post PC Kenneth Lloyd. He stayed and worked the tent with us. Thank you, we appreciated your help. Later that day, PC Lloyd awarded Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr. (ret) with a SAMS Honorary

Life Membership for his dedication and work on getting National Tartan Day recognized. Congressman Duncan and his wife were invited onto the field by GMHG's President, Steve Quillin and the Games were stopped while the presentation took place. Hal Morrison, National Councilor, donated his own personal dirk that Ken presented to Congressman Duncan and also a SAMS Medal for his work with local Veterans in the State. Duncan was truly honored to be awarded the membership, the Dirk, and the Medal. He continues to work with local Veterans, getting them recognized and the help they need.

We were feeling really good about having 160 members on the roster in June, before dropping to 119 due to non-renewals. Retention can be a real pain sometimes.

The picnic scheduled for June had to be rescheduled because our PC, and his wife Debra both caught Covid at the Greenville Games and it took them three weeks to recover. We will have our picnic on 16 September at the Lloyds farm in Denton, NC. We are also celebrating our 30th year as a Post. Our Charter was issued 23 September 1993.

As we get ready for our second half of the year's Games and events; we are thankful for *all our members and their families*. We know we wouldn't be as successful if it wasn't for our Officers, their wives and dedicated members who support the Post by performing in the Color Guard and recruiting at the tent. We have four female members who participate in heavy athletics at Games, they are the only members who compete.

Our fall Games will take us to one of our biggest this year; Scotland Co. Highland Games in Laurinburg, NC, they have already released their program with over 25 Pipe and Drum bands coming on 7 October. Our members are having to find hotel reservations out of town because of so many Clans, Vendors, Piping competitors and Athletes. We will have some pictures in the Winter edition, I'm sure. So, for now, stay safe, stay healthy and keep recruiting!

—Ken Lloyd, PC, kennethlloyd01@gmail.com

**Post 1787, (MG Caesar Rodney) Odessa, Delaware**

—Jim Grant, PC, uncle.duck@verizon.net

**Post 1806, (Zebulon Pike) Sothern Colorado**

We are rebounding from the PC's absence due to knee replacement recovery as affected by COVID-19 in Italy and recovery from that.

Credit goes to the members who staffed our booth at Pikes Peak Celtic Fest in June with signing up 22 interested persons, of whom 11 responded to follow-up thus far and three affirmative new members. The intermittent monsoon rains were no hindrance to operations. By vote of the membership we determined to skip the Elizabeth Celtic Fest and to participate on other fests on an individual basis.

VC Jack Casey hosted a summer cook-out as a friendly get-together with no business covered. PC Russell brought his Army SGT granddaughter along to meet the group while she's in EOD training at Kirtland AFB, NM. Thanks to the Casey's for hosting.



With the new leadership team comes the obligation to learn about member expectations and ideas, and to see who can lend skills like webmaster, PAO and so forth. For that purpose a Survey Monkey will be sent out. As always we face the problem of legal access to Fort Carson and Peterson Space Force Base. That requires formal recognition as a "Private Organization." It requires purchasing a liability policy at over \$400 annually. A proposed cost-splitting solution might be teaming with Post 100, and finding a helpful insurance broker who can provide a policy covering the state. That would help Post 100 get onto Buckley Space Force Base and FE Warren AFB near Cheyenne WY. It would be nice if National could provide such coverage.

The PC is reviewing previous annual calendars as a think-piece for survey responses. For the rest of 2023 the Post will be engaged in:

El Paso Co. Homeless Veterans Stand Down (responsibility shifted to the Mount Carmel Veterans Service Center.) With the change of sponsorship no information has been received, and the Stand Down is not on the VA national website.

4 November Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade Color Guard. 16 December Pikes Peak National Cemetery Wreaths Across America.

Tentative: Holiday Season "White Elephant" Swap; "Did Ye Ken" night; Induction and recognition for Mike McGrath, Vietnam/Hanoi Hilton POW

—John Russell, PC, johnnyboy80133@comcast.com

**1812**, RI, E Mass, E CT

We hope someone will step up and take the PC position. We would hate to lose 1812 as a viable Post. Contact your RC Gene Jones (cwo4bosun@aol.com)

**Post 1813**, Columbus, OH

—POC, Ray McFee, ray.mcfee@gmail.com

**Post 1821, (John J Pershing)** St Louis, MO

—Quincy Watt, PC, wmwatt50@hotmail.com

**Post 1824, (Ozark Highlanders),** MO

I hope and pray that this finds you all well after the fires, rainstorms, and heat wave that has ravaged our country as of late. Our Post will be setting up at the Southwest Missouri Celtic Fest and Games in Buffalo MO on 8-9 September. We hope to see many of you.

—Mike Gibbens, PC, mike3517@hotmail.com

**Post 1836**, San Antonio, TX

—Mike Canion, PC, mikecanion@gmail.com

**Post 1839, (Lone Star),** Kerrville, TX

—George C Vieyra, PC, vieyra\_cummins@msn.com

**Post 1845**, Ft Worth / Dallas

—Bill Stevens, PC, cptvill86@gmail.com

**Post 1846, (Hawkeye)** State of Iowa

—Jay Knox, POC, jeknox@mchsi.com

**Post 1847, (Gen James Ferguson)** Salt Lake City, UT

Working hard this summer, we participated in the Utah Highland Games and the Payson Scottish Festival. Making excellent contacts at both and a couple of new members. Post Honor Guard had the opportunity

to open the Annual Convention for the Association of Public Treasurers, United States and Canada, (APT US&C). Their board members commented that they had tears in their eyes and were proud to see veterans in Scottish uniforms with the pipes leading them in. Additionally, we started to hold monthly meetings over Google Meets, with in-person events as well. One of our members is in the process of becoming a Veteran Advocate (VAC) with the hopes of being employed in that role. With fall coming, other events, the Scots on the Rocks festival in Moab, Veterans Day, and Governors Day (Utah National Guard pass in review). I want to thank the dedication of Robb, Nikki, Connie, Lars, and John for their work with the Post this summer. You all are hard-working and contribute to the Post.

In the future, Flag retirement events with other veteran groups, Wreaths Across America, with the Post looking into more ways to give back to the veteran community.

Ken Sorensen, PC, kendall.sorensen1@gmail.com

**Post 1852, (Three Rivers),** SW WA, NW OR

—Leslie Tate, PC, lrtate@live.com

**Post 1854, (Ron Marx Heartland)** Wichita, KS

—John Sample, PC, jsample87@yahoo.com

**Post 1858**, Minnesota:

—VACANT PC

**Post 1859 (Pig War)** Coupeville, WA & Lower BC

—Donald P. Scoby, PC, pigwar1859comm@gmail.com

**Post 1860, (J. Elliott Williams)** Charleston, SC

—Harl Porter, PC, 107Harl@sc.rr.com

**Post 1861, (LCPL Kenneth J Haywood)** San Diego, CA

—Jay Rindler PC, karlort@aol.com

**Post 1864, (Edward M. Cobbs)** Reno, NV

—John Callan, PC, jcallan409@gmail.com

**Post 1889, (Mt. Rainier)** Seattle, WA

—Shane L Inman, PC, slinman87@gmail.com

**Post 1912**, New Mexico

—Thomas B. Hill, PC, basscdr@gmail.com

**Post 1921, (Admiral William A. Moffett)** No. CA

Successful gathering at the 157th annual Highland Games in Pleasanton, reputed to be the largest gathering, at least in this country, if not the world. (open to verification...) We had cooler than 95° this year with a slight breeze. Our AGM election was held away from the tent as it was situated smack dab in the middle of piping contestants. Our newly elected Adjutant, Paul Baxter (also our trailer wrangler). Fresno Games saw lots of interested active duty and veterans signed the 'guest' book. Paul is doing follow-ups. On tap are several Veterans Day events throughout our territory.

—Jo Lawrence, CO, jal140@aol.com

**Post 1952, (Frank H. Kennon)** Central Florida

—Wesson Williams, PC, wessonwill@yahoo.com

**Post 1955 (Inland Empire)** Spokane WA

—Edward Wattawa, PC, inlandempirepost1955@gmail.com

# *The Korean Conflict America's Forgotten War*

*By James Schiaffino*

The world changed in 1950. But it really didn't get too much attention from the war weary public. That's why Korea is often referred to as "The Forgotten War". Public awareness changed a wee bit when the TV show 'MASH' debuted. I don't have anything against Joseph Haller or Alan Alda but they only showed a small side of the war. They did however make many Americans aware of America's Forgotten War. So how did it start and why did the world change because of it?

Without boring you with unnecessary political details; just as in World War II, American leadership found the U.S. once again unprepared for war. Despite the growing threat of Communism, immediately following the cessation of hostilities, the number of military personnel in the U.S. was reduced almost 90 percent, from more than 12 million to about 1.5 million. Author John C. Sparrow in book his 'History of Personnel Demobilization in the United States Army' stated that the rapid demobilization after WW II reduced the army "to a state of near impotency, weakened the prestige of our national policy, and endangered the security of the nation." Taking advantage of this weakness, the communist countries of the Soviet Union and China seized the advantage by encouraging and supplying arms to other communist regimes. They encouraged North Korea to invade South Korea and unite the peninsula under communist control.

On 25 June 1950, the North Korean army (NKPA) crossed the 38th parallel. Caught completely off guard, the outnumbered and poorly equipped Republic of Korea (ROK) forces were forced to retreat. The United States scrambled to reinforce the ROK forces. President Harry Truman said, "If we let Korea down," "the Soviet[s] will keep right on going and swallow up one [place] after another."

At this point two important events occurred. Eventually, the U.S. was able to muster support from twenty-one countries of the United Nations. This occurred because the Soviet Union made a tactical error in not vetoing the vote in the Security Council. U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson said, "If the best minds in the world had set out to find us the worst possible location in the world to fight this damnable war, the unanimous choice would have been Korea."

Overlooking General MacArthur's disastrous defense of the Philippines, President Truman placed the mercurial general in charge of the UN Forces. A decision that would once again, shall we say, proved regrettable.

Their initial response was to send the 540 soldier Task- Force Smith, while they mobilized the 24th Infantry Division to be flown in from Japan. These forces were woefully insufficient to halt the invasion. The U.S. and ROC forces were forced back into a small

portion of South Korea that became known as the Pusan Perimeter.

The remnants of the 24th, and the ROC, under-equipped and out numbered almost 200 to 1, mounted a last stand perimeter around the ports of Masan and Pusan. They held the Pusan Perimeter for six weeks from 4 August to 18 September. This allowed the UN reinforcements to land and be deployed. Initially, 16 other nations joined the U.S. in Korea. The UN contribution eventually swelled to 24, with the U.S. providing around 90% of the military personnel. As more and more troops arrived, the UN forces were finally of sufficient strength to mount an offensive.

The counter-offensive halted the North Korean drive southward and General MacArthur staged an amphibious landing at Incheon on 15 September 1950 to break the stalemate. The ensuing battle was followed by a rapid collapse of the NKPA; within a month of the Incheon landing, the Americans had recaptured the South Korean capital of Seoul and taken 135,000 NKPA troops prisoner. The NKPA ceased to exist as a cohesive fighting force.

Seizing on the momentum, MacArthur ordered his forces into North Korea. He was ordered not to approach the Yalu River, the dividing line between North Korea and China for fear that it would draw communist China into the conflict. Just as in the disaster in Philippines when he failed to follow direct orders, he did just that.

Initially, the general declared that all UN troops would invade North Korea, defeat the communist forces, stop fighting by Thanksgiving, and return home in time for Christmas. Fearing Chinese intervention, President Truman ordered MacArthur to only allow South Korean units into the North Korean countryside and not to bomb within five miles of the Yalu River. Just as in WWII when MacArthur failed to follow orders from President Roosevelt, he ignored the order from President Truman. On 19 October 1950, UN forces reached the Yalu River. Alarmed by the proximity of the UN forces to their border, the Chinese did exactly what Truman feared. On 24 November the Chinese launched an offensive. Approximately 300,000 Chinese troops crossed the Yalu.

From 27 November to 13 December, a brutal 17-day battle in freezing weather occurred at the Chosin Reservoir. About 30,000 UN troops were encircled and attacked by about 120,000 Chinese forces. When ordered to withdraw, Major General Oliver P. Smith, Commander of the 1st Marine Division uttered the most famous quote of the conflict, "Retreat Hell! We're just attacking in another direction." The UN forces were able to break out of the encirclement and to make a fighting withdrawal to the port of Hungnam, inflicting

heavy casualties on the Chinese along the way. Citing a biblical reference the troops began to refer to themselves as ‘The Chosin Few.’

The retreat of the US Eighth Army from northwest Korea in the aftermath of the Battle of the Ch'ongch'on River and the evacuation of the X Corps from the port of Hungnam in northeast Korea marked the complete withdrawal of UN troops from North Korea.

All the UN forces were now back at the 38th Parallel. The lines more or less stabilized there.

Armistice talks began on 10 July 1951. The fighting continued relentlessly. MacArthur wanted to use nuclear weapons and requested 34 bombs. He also wanted to bomb Chinese bases in Manchuria and destroy the bridges over the Yalu River. He also suggested that perhaps the Nationalist Chinese in Taiwan could invade mainland China.

Fearing an even larger ground war with China, MacArthur’s demands finally proved too much for President Truman and MacArthur was relieved of command on 11 April 1951. Explaining his actions, Truman said “It was the wrong war, at the wrong time, in the wrong place, and against the wrong enemy.” Finally, the Armistice was signed on 27 July 1951 ending The Korean Conflict.

Although it is often referred to as a “War” it is categorically not one. Only Congress can declare war, and they didn’t. The U.S. became involved because of a United Nations Resolution. Even the President referred to it as a “Police Action”.

Almost 40,000 Americans died in action in Korea, and more than 100,000 were wounded. Today, they are remembered at the Korean War Veterans Memorial near the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.. There is also one in Baltimore, Md.



The Memorial in Baltimore MD

Nota Bene: Both Memorials contain all of the names of those who sacrificed their lives in Korea.



The Korean Conflict Memorial, Washington DC, on the mall, located near the Vietnam Wall





# The World War One Medals of Colour Sergeant McInnes

By Guy C. Kerby Post 1298



I have always loved history. Especially military history. So, it comes to no surprise to those that know me that I have a somewhat eclectic collection of militaria. With my entrance into the Scottish American Military Society, my collection expanded. I already had a small collection of British militaria covering the Paras and Intelligence Corps. Now the largest portion of my UK collection is dedicated to the Scottish regiments, mainly the Highland Light Infantry from Glasgow.

I wish the US produced medals in the way the UK does, with the information of the awardee stamped around the edge of the medal. I think I may enjoy researching the pieces of militaria and the history behind them as much as I do owning them. The UK allows me that pleasure through their medals.



I recently acquired a WW I medal set belonging to a Company Quartermaster Sergeant (CQMS) / Colour Sergeant (C.SJT) in the Royal Highlanders (Black Watch). This is my first British medal set and thankfully it came with his service records. Unfortunately, it is missing the 1914-15 Star medal he was also awarded.

The following is from a 2004 post on The Great War (1914-1918) Forum ([greatwarforum.org](http://greatwarforum.org))

Colour Sergeants derive from Staff Sergeants and were formally created in 1813 by a General Order stating; "The duty of attending colours in the field shall at all times be performed by Colour Sergeants".

The implications of this were well-put by another: "In practice this order had to be modified owing to the mortality among Colour Sergeants who were obvious targets for snipers."



There was one Colour Sergeant per company, usually selected on merit. The original badge of rank was a crown above a union jack, itself above two crossed swords and a single chevron of gold lace. In 1868 this was simplified to the more familiar crown above a union jack, all atop three chevrons.

During WW I, the Colour Sergeant (CQMS) was responsible for the company stores, accommodation and feeding the men when detached from the battalion.

There was one Colour Sergeant in each rifle company. In Headquarters Company there was a CQMS of course but there could be other such as the Bugle/

Drum/ Pipe Trumpet Major, Chief Clerk and the Band Sergeant could all hold the rank of Colour Sergeant depending on length of appointment. There could be Staff Sergeants attached such as the Armourer.

At one time, color sergeant was also a rank in the US Army, last used during the WW I. The following is from Colour sergeant - Wikipedia:



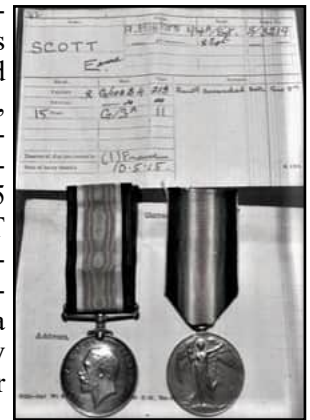
"Color sergeant is an NCO rank that was used historically in the United States Army, lastly during World War I."

CQMS / C.SJT Dugald McInnes, serial #5517, was assigned to the Royal Highlanders. According to the 10th Battalion's Regimental History, McInnes was wounded in 1917 during an artillery attack on his unit's trenches. At this time, the 10th Battalion was fighting in Macedonia where it had been since November 1915. They would return to France in July 1918.

During this time McInnes and the Royal Highlanders were part of the Battles of Doiran which pitted British and Greek forces against the Bulgarians. The British occupied positions along the western side of Lake Doiran and experienced heavy casualties during the three major battles in that area.

From what I can ascertain, Dugald survived his wounds and the war. Being no expert on UK records, I believe the notation in the remarks block shows him leaving the service on 4 May 1919, or that is the date they sent his medals to him. Maybe another member can enlighten me.

At the same time, I acquired a second set of medals belonging to Sergeant Edward Scott, service number 3219, also of the Royal Highlanders. This set too, unfortunately, was missing the 1914-15 Star medal. However, SGT Scott had more documentation which supported his service to include his being a part of the Territorial Army and his application to transfer to the Black Watch.



I checked to see if he would have been authorized the Territorial War Medal, but since he volunteered after 1914, he did not.

My plan is to set up a display of all my Scottish regimental memorabilia at the Post's tent at events to serve as a conversation starter. Unless otherwise noted, all pictures are of items in my personal collection.

# USCG Modoc

By Jim Schiaffino

It was a beautiful spring day. There were a few white puffy clouds in an otherwise clear blue sky. There was a fairly strong wind and the sea was rough but otherwise it was somewhat routine for the North Atlantic in the spring. For the crew of the *USCG Modoc*, it began with their usual routine, searching for survivors of any U-Boat attacks.

The early stages of WW II were desperate times and they called for desperate measures. The *Modoc* was a relic from another time pressed into service in the North Atlantic. She was a Tampa-class 240-foot Coast Guard cutter launched in 1922. On a calm day with a following wind she could barely make her top speed of fourteen-plus knots and was armed with a pair of 5-inch deck guns. Her task during the early stages of the war was to rescue survivors from U-Boat attacks. Too slow to be an escort vessel and too lightly armed to engage the enemy she was being used strictly as a support vessel.

Being a neutral ship in a combat zone, she was on constant alert for potential danger. She flew an oversized Coast Guard ensign and lit it at night. Her radio operators identified her and broadcast her position coordinates at regular intervals for anyone who might be listening. On 22 May 1941, the *Modoc* was patrolling the track of eastbound supply convoy HX-126, from Halifax to Liverpool. The convoy had been attacked by U-boats and lost nine transports out of thirty-three.

The prevailing weather conditions affected the *Modoc* and found her farther eastward in her search. She

found nothing more than wreckage. Then on 24 May 1941, her radioman heard about a battle in the Denmark Straits. They were surprised to hear that the *HMS Hood* was sunk, by a ship of which they had never heard of, the battleship *KMS Bismarck*.

She raised steam and sped, if that could be the correct word, to aid in the rescue of any survivors, but didn't find any. Two days later toward evening, *Modoc* saw an enormous gray shape barely on the starboard horizon. As the huge ship loomed larger, the *Modoc* was able to identify her.

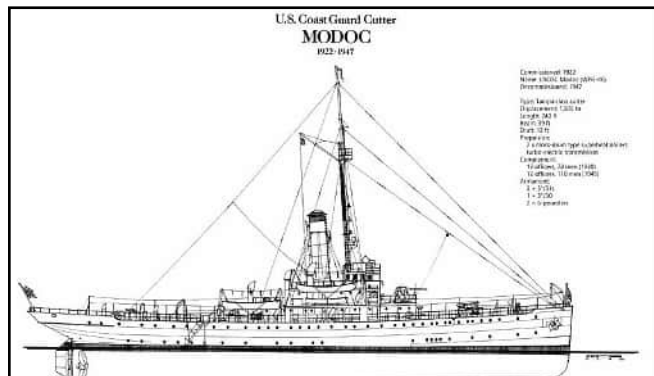
Following the sinking of the *HMS Hood*, the pursuing British ships chasing *Bismarck* had made some navigational errors and lost track of her. The task force found them searching in the wrong part of the ocean. Like the cavalry riding to the rescue, by sheer accident the *Modoc* saved the day for the British navy. She had stumbled, if a ship can stumble, upon the "lost" *Bismarck*.

*Modoc's* captain, Lt Commander H. Belford knew that his small, slow ship had absolutely no chance of survival if the mighty *Bismarck* decided to engage. He immediately raised every American flag on board in addition to the large Coast Guard ensign; he also ordered her radioman to identify her as a neutral vessel. The *Bismarck* did not reply, but to the relief of everyone, *Bismarck* ignored her completely. Their navigator estimated the distance between the two ships at about two miles. The location of the German battleship was immediately broadcast.

From its base in Iceland a British PBY piloted by a US pilot, flew out to verify the report. The *Modoc* continued to follow the *Bismarck* at a relatively safe distance of about six miles. The information was relayed to the pursuing ships. As evening approached and with it the fear that they would once again lose the *Bismarck*, the aircraft carrier *HMS Ark Royal* launched a desperate air attack with 15 obsolete Swordfish torpedo bombers. It was turning out to be a great day for the antiquated warriors.

As the air attack commenced, the tiny *Modoc* found herself smack dab in the middle of an intense battle for survival - hers. The heavy antiaircraft fire from *Bismarck* whizzed dangerously close to the cutter's port bow. Her heroic role now complete, and discretion being the better part of valor, the little ship laid down a smoke screen and ambled away. But she was not out of danger yet. At dawn the next day, *Modoc's* new course found her traveling toward the chasing British force. One of the vessels pursuing the *Bismarck*, *HMS Norfolk* spotted her and mistook her for an enemy vessel. As she trained her big guns on the little boat the *HMS Prince of Wales* identified her and once again the heroic little ship escaped.

*USCG Modoc* continued her valuable service as a patrol cutter until decommissioning in 1947.



The *USCG Modoc* 1,506 tons, 240 feet in length, with a crew of 39, armed with two 5-inch guns.



*KMS Bismarck*, 50,300 tons, 823 ft 6 in length, speed of 30 knots, with a crew of 2,062. Armament: eight 15 inch, twelve 5.9 inch, sixteen 4.1 inch, sixteen 1.5 inch, and twelve 0.79 inch Anti-Aircraft guns.

## ADDITUM: History

*Modoc* was launched as a Coast Guard cutter by Union Construction Company in Oakland, California on 1 October 1921. She was placed in commission on 14 January 1922, one of four Tampa-class 240-foot cutters, the others being *Haida*, *Mojave*, and *Tampa*. These were the first USCG vessels with turbo-electric transmission and were the largest and most advanced cutters for their time. She had a top speed of sixteen knots, and was armed with a pair of 5-inch deck guns.

Home ported at Wilmington, North Carolina, *Modoc* began Atlantic ice patrol service with the International Ice Patrol in 1923. For much of the next 18 years, she and another cutter alternated on 15-day patrols off the Grand Banks, using Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Boston as their bases.

Transferred to the Navy by Executive Order No. 8029 of 1 November 1941, she was armed with depth charges, additional guns, sonar, and radar. *Modoc* joined the Greenland Patrol, whose orders were to do “a little of everything.” This duty involved keeping convoy routes open, breaking and finding leads in ice for the Greenland convoys, escorting the convoys and rescuing survivors from torpedoed ships, constructing and maintaining aids to navigation, and reporting weather conditions. Ships of the patrol were also expected to discover and destroy enemy weather and radio stations in Greenland, continue hydrographic surveys, maintain communications, deliver supplies, and conduct search and rescue operations. All of these duties, the Coast Guard performed with exemplary fortitude and faithfulness throughout the war. It was during this time that she was designated as WPG-46.

On the Greenland Ice Patrol plodded many of the Coast Guard’s older, smaller, and slower ships. They endured much discomfort amid the dangers of fog, storms, ice, and German raiders, but their work was vital to victory in the Atlantic.

In both World Wars, when submarines were more of a menace than icebergs, the International Ice Patrol was suspended so that the cutters could perform more important escort duty. During these years there was but one major collision; British ship *Svend Foyn* struck a berg 21 January 1943. Before she sank, *Modoc* rescued 128 survivors.

*Modoc* returned to the Treasury Department in accordance with Executive Order No. 9666 of 28 December 1945, and served as a patrol cutter until decommissioning in 1947. Sold to Manuel Velliantis in Honduras, she was converted for merchant use and renamed *Amalia V*. Registered in Ecuador in 1960 by Tropical Navigation Co., she was renamed *Machala*, and served as a merchantman until scrapped in 1964.



## VA NEWS

### OPIOID REDUCTION

The Department of Veterans Affairs has reduced the number of Veterans with opioid prescriptions by 67% since 2012, from 874,897 Veterans in 2012 to 288,820 in 2023 — while continuing to provide comprehensive, world-class pain management to Veterans. Beating the opioid epidemic is a key pillar in President Biden’s Unity Agenda for the nation, and it reinforces the importance of preventing opioid addiction.

VA has adopted a ‘Whole Health’ approach to Veteran-centered pain care, which focuses on the Veteran as a whole person and provides evidence-based treatment via interdisciplinary pain management teams, rather than relying on one treatment. Veterans can manage their pain by having foundational services at each facility, including nutrition and weight management, movement and exercise, quality sleep, and relaxation techniques that are delivered through a personalized health plan and supported by whole health coaches.

By providing comprehensive pain-management tools, Veterans can often avoid the need for potentially addictive medications or invasive procedures. The goal is to help Veterans live full, meaningful, pain-free lives. This progress is largely due to VA’s Opioid Safety Initiative (OSI), launched in 2013.

### The PACT Act

Veterans and their survivors have filed more than one million claims for toxic exposure-related benefits under the PACT Act since President Biden signed it into law 10 Aug 2022.

The VA has processed more than 551,000 of these claims, granting 77.9% of them and awarding more than \$2.2 billion in earned benefits to Veterans and survivors. Supporting Veterans and their families is a core pillar in President Biden’s Unity Agenda for the nation, and helps deliver on his promise to comprehensively address military related toxic exposure.

### SUICIDE PREVENTION GRANTS

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced several critical steps forward on its Veteran suicide prevention initiatives, including \$52.5 million in new Veteran suicide prevention grants, a new set of Veteran suicide prevention public service announcements (PSA), and — for the first time — statistics on the impact of VA’s new program offering free emergency medical care to Veterans in acute suicidal crisis at any VA or non-VA health care facility.





# “TO PLAY WELL FOR THE DUKE”

George Shott, PC

The hall was long and cold. Faint illumination from the large arched windows brightened the gray stones. The footsteps of the lone piper resonated throughout St. George’s Chapel. Then the first notes of Flowers of the Forest commenced causing millions of mourners to pause for the poignant and emotional refrains. Knowing that his performance would be broadcast worldwide, Color SGT Peter Grant set himself on one thing...when the moment came, “my sole focus was to play well for the Duke of Edinburgh and the Royal Family, which made the cameras an afterthought.” People from around the world sent C/SGT Grant accolades for his performance.

Thirty-three year old, Pipe Major Color Sergeant Peter Grant was at home in Braemar, home of the Braemar Gathering, when he received the call that the Duke of Edinburgh had passed away. CSGT Grant recalled: “I felt great sadness, particularly for Her Majesty, the Queen, who had lost her husband of so many years.” Color Sergeant Grant was chosen because he was the Pipe Major of the 4SCOTS (4th Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Scotland) and the special relationship the Battalion shared with their royal Colonel, Prince Philip.

Peter Grant grew up in Braemar where he was always surrounded by the sounds of bagpipes and dreamed of playing in the massed pipes and drums. When he was 6 or 7, Grant joined the Ballater and District Pipe Band as a junior member and, throughout his teen years, performed at various highland games. Grant’s interest in military piping was piqued when he watched Her Majesty’s Royal Guard at Balmoral Castle every year. He was, like many of us, mesmerized by the pipe bands. The seeds of being a military piper were sown. In his military career, Grant was firstly an infantryman in Iraq and Afghanistan. Back home CSGT performed at ceremonies around the world, the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, Buckingham Palace, Balmoral Castle, and the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Grant’s early memories were as a lad at the Braemar Games lining up to see the Royals arriving and actually being waved at by Prince Philip. It wasn’t until he joined the military that he had personal encounters with the Royal Family. The Duke of Edinburgh had a long association with the 4SCOTS and later as its Royal Colonel. He frequented many of the regiment’s parades, and medal presentations for Iraq and Afghanistan. He mingled around with the troops after ceremonies because they shared wartime experiences.

Pipe Major CSGT Peter Grant of the 4SCOTS, indeed, performed ‘the greatest honor’ of his military career and was: “extremely proud and privileged to have been a part of the ceremony”. He said it was personal for him because the Duke of Edinburgh had been such a

part of his life for as long as he could remember. “I am so glad I played well for him”.

Personal Note: I think that anyone hearing Grant’s rendition of Flowers of the Forest would perhaps wonder if that performance was the pinnacle of the funeral.



## Sources Used:

Scotland Magazine. “The Greatest Honour” by Peter Grant, Issue 117, September 2021.

“Duke of Edinburgh reviewing the 4SCOTS, [www.army.mod.uk](http://www.army.mod.uk), Ministry of Defence, 15 April 2021

Formal portrait of C/SGT Grant and Grant performing at St George’s Chapel, Twitter.

Split Photo – CSGT on left and Duke’s Casket on right. <https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk>



## Scottish Kitchen Recipes ~ Real Scottish Food

In Scotland it was believed that each year Cailleach, the goddess of winter, held the Goddess Brigid captive in a cave, preventing her radiant light and warmth from shining on the earth. In some stories Cailleach turns to stone at the first signs of spring, and Brigid escapes bringing with her renewed fertility and warmth to the world. One centuries-old tradition is still upheld even today. Locals walk up to Glen Cailleach on Samhuinn (31 October) to take the stones representing the goddess and her family out of their shrine, a small turf roofed hut named Tigh nam Bodach, in time for winter. They would then return on Beltane (1 May) to place the stones back in the shrine before summer. In times gone by, households that believed in the folklore would also carve the Cailleach's face, or a close representation, into a wooden log before tossing it into the fire to signal new beginnings and say goodbye to any dark troubles from the past.



Tigh nan Cailleach, near Glen Lyon in Perthshire, Scotland

By Jim "Ski" Schiaffino

### Highland Scones

#### Ingredients:

1 cup of un-sifted flour  
3 Tbsp sugar  
2 tsp baking powder  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/3 cup shortening  
1/2 cup of quick-cooking oatmeal  
1/2 cup currents  
2 eggs, beaten

**Method:** Stir flour, sugar, baking powder and salt in a bowl. Cut in shortening until mixture is crumbly. Stir in currents and oatmeal. Add eggs, stir just until moistened. Turn dough on a floured surface and knead lightly about 10 times. Roll or pat dough into a 7 inch circle. Cut into 8 wedges, place on ungreased baking sheet 2 inches apart. Bake at 450 degrees for about 8 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm.

### Scotch Pie

Large numbers of Scotch Pies are sold in Scotland every day - they are an original "fast food" and are often sold at the half-time interval at football (soccer) matches. The quantities below should make roughly 8-10 pies.

#### Ingredients for Meat Filling:

1 pound (two cups) lean lamb, minced ground  
Pinch of mace or nutmeg  
Salt and pepper  
Quarter pint (150ml) gravy

#### Ingredients for Hot Water Pastry:

4 cups plain flour  
6 ounces (¾ cup) lard  
¾ cup water  
Pinch of salt  
Milk for glazing

You will also need glasses or jars, approximately 3-3½ inches in diameter to shape the pie.

**Method:** Create the filling by mixing the ground lamb, spice and seasoning. Make the pastry by sifting the flour and salt into a warm bowl. Make a well in the center of the flour. Melt the lard in a scant measure of water and, when it is bubbling, add to the flour and mix

thoroughly. Take a small amount (remember the mixture should make 8/10 pies, with their tops) and form into a ball and keep the rest warm while making each pastry case by rolling a suitable amount for each pie and shaping the crust round the base of a glass or jar about 3-3½ inches in diameter. Make sure there are no cracks in the pastry - you can trim round the top of the case to make it even. As the pastry gets cool, remove the glass and continue until you have about a quarter of the pastry left to make the lids. Fill the cases with the meat and add the gravy to make the meat moist. Roll the remaining pastry and use the glass to cut the lids. Wet the edges of the lids, place over the meat and press down lightly over the filling. Pinch the edges and trim. Cut a small hole or vent in the center of the lid to allow the steam to escape. Glaze with milk and bake for about 45 minutes at 275F. If the pies are not eaten immediately, they can be stored in the fridge but always ensure they are properly reheated before being eaten.

### Mince and Tatties

A common dish in Scottish households.

#### Ingredients:

1 Tbsp oil.  
1 large onion, finely chopped.  
1 lb beef mince.  
2 medium carrots, sliced.  
1 Tbsp toasted pinhead oatmeal.  
Water to cover.  
1 or 2 beef stock cubes.  
Salt and pepper.  
Gravy powder.  
1 lb boiled potatoes, peeled.  
4 mealie puddings (optional) A traditional blend of steel-cut oats, onions, and suet hand-stuffed in a natural casing.

**Method:** Heat the oil in a pan and sauté the onion until dark brown. Add in the mince and cook until well browned. Add the carrots and oatmeal, mix well and pour in enough water to just cover. Crumble in the stock cubes, season and stir. Lay the mealie puddings on top, cover the pan and simmer the mince for about 20 minutes. Once the mince is cooked remove the

mealie puddings and thicken the mince with about 3 tsp of gravy powder or cornstarch mixed with a little cold water. Serve the mince with a mealie pudding and boiled potatoes. Serves 4.

### Fresh Corn Pie

#### Ingredients:

Pastry for 2-crust, 9-inch pie  
3 hard-boiled eggs, peeled and sliced  
6 ears fresh corn (or 3-1/2 cups canned or frozen corn)  
2 Tbsp finely chopped onion  
2 Tbsp finely chopped parsley  
1 Tbsp flour  
1 Tbsp sugar  
1-1/2 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp pepper  
4 Tbsp butter  
3/4 cup light cream or half-and-half

**Method:** Preheat oven to 450°. Line pie plate with half the pastry. Remove corn kernels from cob with a sharp knife. Arrange corn, eggs, onion, and parsley in layers in the lined pie pan. Combine flour, sugar, salt, and pepper; sprinkle over corn mixture. Dot with butter and pour cream over all. Roll remaining piecrust 1/8-inch thick. Place over corn mixture and seal edges firmly. Make a slit in the center of the crust for steam to escape. Bake for 8 minutes. Reduce heat to 350° and bake 50 to 60 minutes until the crust is browned. Serves 6.

### 1000 Year Old Stew

#### Ingredients:

2 lbs beef or Buffalo, deer, elf,  
1/2 tsp sage, home grown  
1 cup sunflower seeds - roasted, unsalted  
2 cups cooked pinto beans (navy, great northern, lima or red)  
1/2 medium Onion (or to taste)  
salt to taste

1 15 oz can hominy - yellow or white, drained and washed  
1 pkg 6 oz long grain and wild rice - discard seasoning  
**Method:** Put a cup of water in a 3-qt slow cooker with the meat, onions, sage, salt. (If using dry beans or wild rice, put them in with the meat and onions with a little more water, rice and cooked beans can be added 2-3 hours before serving. Cook on high, covered for 3 1/2 hours. Add sunflower seeds and hominy and turn down to low for 3 more hours. Add water or broth to thin your stew to desired consistency. You may want to add catsup, steak sauce, or chili powder to suit the modern tastes. If one doesn't care for hominy or sunflower seed, they can be left out. It will still be authentic and tasty; DO NOT FREEZE TO KEEP. It gets mushy when reheated. It keeps well for a few days in the refrigerator.

### Crockpot Potato Soup

#### Ingredients:

1 30 oz bag frozen hash-brown potatoes  
2 14 oz cans chicken broth  
1 10.75 oz can cream of chicken soup  
1/2 cup onion (chopped)  
1/3 tsp ground black pepper  
1 8 oz package cream cheese (softened)  
**Garnish:** minced green onion, shredded Cheddar

cheese, and bacon

**Directions:** Place the frozen hash browns, chicken broth, cream of chicken soup, chopped onions, and ground black pepper in a crockpot. Cover and turn heat on low. Cook for 5 hours. Add softened cream cheese. Cook for an additional 30 minutes and stir until combined. Optional but highly suggested: top with shredded Cheddar cheese, bacon strips, and minced green onion.

### Cream of Pumpkin Soup

#### Ingredients:

750g pumpkin (preferably butternut)  
15g butter  
1 medium onion, chopped  
2 bacon rashers, chopped (optional)  
4 cups water  
1/4 cup cream

1 small chicken stock cube, crumbled

**Method:** Using sharp knife, remove skin and seeds from the pumpkin, cut into small even pieces. Melt butter in large saucepan, add onion and bacon, stir constantly over heat until onion is soft. Add pumpkin to pan, then water and stock cube, bring to boil, reduce heat, cover, simmer for about 30 mins or until pumpkin is tender. Remove from heat. Blend or process mixture in several batches until smooth. Return mixture to pan, stir in cream, reheat, stirring constantly without boiling. Add salt and pepper to taste.



### Oxtail Stew

#### Ingredients:

1 oxtail  
2 oz plain flour  
2 oz dripping  
2 small carrots, sliced  
2 small onions, sliced  
salt and pepper to taste  
1-1/2 pints of beef stock or water

**Method:** Wash oxtail and dry. Cut into joints and trim of any excess fat. Dip in flour. Melt fat in saucepan and fry meat until brown. Lift out meat and lightly fry sliced carrots and onions. Put meat back into the pan, add seasoning and stock or water. Simmer for three hours and serve with crusty bread. (serves 4)



### Individual Butternut Squash Wellingtons

#### Ingredients:

1/2 butternut squash  
15g salted butter  
1 orange, juiced  
2 thyme sprigs, plus the leaves from 2 extra sprigs  
500g block puff pastry  
500 ml vegetable stock, made with 1 stock cube  
plain flour, for dusting  
150g chestnut mushrooms, finely chopped  
2 handfuls of spinach, roughly chopped  
10 walnut halves, finely chopped  
50g vegetarian blue cheese  
1 egg, beaten  
2 tsp corn flour (optional)



**Method:** Trim off the neck of the squash (it should be about 15cm long), then peel and cut in half lengthwise. (Reserve the round base to use in soups or other recipes.) Put the squash halves in a lidded pan along with the butter, orange juice, thyme sprigs and stock, and season well. Cover and bring to a simmer over a medium heat and cook for 25-30 mins until the squash is just tender. Drain, reserving the liquid, and allow to cool. Roll the puff pastry out on a lightly floured surface into a large, ½cm-thick rectangle. Cut the rectangle into four equal pieces (around 20 x 15cm) – they should be large enough to fit one butternut squash half on top, with a good amount of space around it. Put the pastry pieces on a tray and chill in the fridge. Meanwhile, fry the mushrooms in a dry frying pan over a medium-high heat until they've released their liquid and are beginning to brown, about 6-8 mins. Add the spinach and fry until wilted, about 1-2 mins. Scatter in the thyme leaves, season well, then add the walnuts. Cook for 1 min until lightly toasted but not burned. Tip the mixture into a bowl, crumble in the blue cheese and stir. Leave to cool. Heat oven to 350°F. Remove the pastry rectangles from the fridge and put two on a baking tray. Divide a third of the mushroom mix between them and top each with a squash half. Pack the remaining mushroom mix around the squash tightly, mostly on top. Brush the exposed pastry around the squash with some of the beaten egg, then cover the squash with the other pastry rectangle, crimping the edges with a fork to seal it. Brush the tops with the rest of the egg and bake for 35-40 mins until the pastry is golden and the squash is warmed through. Mix 3 tsp of the reserved squash cooking liquid with the corn flour in a small bowl. Strain the thyme sprigs from the remaining cooking liquid and bring it to a simmer, then remove from the heat and whisk in the corn flour paste. Return to the heat and simmer until thick, then spoon the sauce over the wellingtons to serve.

### Fillet of Turbot (Flounder)

#### Ingredients:

125g (abt 4.50 oz) Turbot Fillet  
 1 Fennel  
 2 Plum Tomatoes  
 3 Potatoes  
 3 Thin slices of eggplant  
 5 fl oz Olive Oil  
 25g Black Olives  
 5g Dill  
 5g Tarragon  
 12 Lemon Segments  
 5g Parsley  
 1 Garlic clove  
 25g Butter

**Method:** Braise Fennel slowly for 2 hours in oil with Garlic and Herbs. Drain Fennel, slice into 4" ring. Top with sliced boiled potatoes and tomato segments cooked with garlic. Bake in the oven for 10 minutes. Dry eggplant and deep fry. Make sauce with warm olive oil, chopped black olives, lemon segments, chopped herbs and garlic. Roast Turbot in hot pan in

oil and butter, 3 minutes each side. Place Fennel in the center of plate. Top with Turbot, surround with Olive Oil dressing, Place eggplant on top and serve.

### Tuna Nicoise Salad

#### Ingredients:

450g waxy potatoes, unpeeled and thickly sliced  
 2 Tbsp plus 2 tsp olive oil  
 4 eggs  
 1 Tbsp red wine vinegar  
 2 Tbsp caper, rinsed  
 50g sundried tomato in oil, finely chopped  
 1/2 red onion, thinly sliced  
 100g baby spinach  
 2 200g cans yellowfin tuna steak in spring water, drained

**Method:** Heat oven to 350°F. Toss the potatoes with 2 tsp oil and some seasoning. Tip onto a large baking tray, then roast for 20 mins, stirring halfway, until crisp, golden and cooked through. Meanwhile, put eggs in a small pan of water, bring to the boil, then simmer for 8-10 mins, depending on how you like them cooked. Plunge into a bowl of cold water to cool for a few mins. Peel, then cut into halves. In a large salad bowl, whisk together the remaining oil, red wine vinegar, capers and chopped tomatoes. Season, tip in the onion, spinach, tuna and potatoes, then gently toss together. Top with the eggs, then serve straight away.



### Apple Dumplings

#### Ingredients:

8 med Macintosh apples, peeled and cored (whole)  
 1/2 cup sugar  
 2 Tbsp cinnamon  
 pie crust rolled out to 8-6" circles  
 4 tsp butter or margarine

**Method:** Place cored apple in the circle of the 6" pie crust, add 1/2 tsp of butter or margarine in the halloed out center of the apple and sprinkle cinnamon/sugar mixture over apple. cover with shell by drawing to the top of the apple and pinching it together. Sprinkle lightly with sugar. Place each dumpling side by side in a baking dish.

**Cinnamon Sauce:** One bag of Red Hot candies and 1/4 cup water, melt in a double boiler. Pour cinnamon sauce into baking dish. Cover dish with Aluminum Foil. Bake at 350 for 35 minutes. Serve fresh out of the oven with fresh whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.

## Quick Fruitcake

### Ingredients:

8 Tbsp unsalted butter, room temperature, at least 65°F  
 3/4 cup granulated sugar  
 1 tsp cinnamon  
 1/2 tsp ginger  
 2 tsp baking powder  
 1/2 tsp salt  
 1 tsp Vanilla Extract  
 2 large eggs  
 1 1/2 cup Unbleached All-Purpose Flour  
 1 cup crushed pineapple  
 1 cup dried fruit  
 1/2 cup walnuts or pecans, diced  
 1/2 cup candied red cherries, each cut in half\*  
 1 1/2 Tbsp coarse sparkling sugar, for topping, optional

**Method:** Preheat oven to 350°F. Lightly grease a 9" x 5" loaf pan. Place the butter, granulated sugar, cinnamon, ginger, baking powder, salt, and vanilla in a bowl, and beat till smooth. Add the eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add the flour, stirring to combine. Stir in the undrained crushed pineapple. Stir in the fruits, nuts, and candied cherries. Spoon the batter into the prepared pan, smoothing the top. Sprinkle with coarse white sparkling sugar, if desired. Bake for 60 minutes, then tent it with aluminum foil. Bake for an additional 15 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted into the center comes out clean. Remove cake from the oven, and after 20 minutes loosen its sides, and turn it out of the pan onto a rack to cool. Let cool the cake completely before slicing.

## Cinnamon Buttered Rum

### Ingredients:

25g butter  
 2 Tbsp golden caster sugar  
 2 small cinnamon sticks  
 200ml spiced rum

**Method:** Gently heat the butter, golden caster sugar and cinnamon sticks in a saucepan until the butter has melted and the sugar has dissolved. Stir in the spiced rum, then pour into four small heatproof glasses to serve.

Recipes are from Electric Scotland and BBC Foods



**Math dha-rireadh!**  
*(Ma gha reeroo)*  
**Great Stuff!**



**Something's up....**  
**The farmer just unfriended me**  
**on Facebook**

# Scottish ~ American Military Society, Inc

## BALLOT

### 2023-2024 TERM OF OFFICE

National Vice Commander (you may select one)

Allen Sperling OL559

National Comptroller (you may select one)

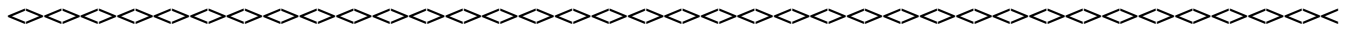
Russell W Adams R4502

Councilor at Large (you may select three)

Douglas Kenyon OL361

Richard T Farquharson OL462

Connie L Carlson OL526



**CUT ALONG THIS LINE**

**Note:** Candidate biographies appear elsewhere in this Patriot

**Contents:** This one page combined ballot and instruction

Pre addressed return envelope (you must attach stamp)

**Directions:** Place black inked X in box adjacent to candidates of your choice

Detach along <><><><> line and place ballot in preaddressed envelope and seal

**WRITE ONLY YOUR MEMBER NUMBER**  
**ON FACE OF RETURN ENVELOPE UPPER LEFT CORNER**

Return envelopes **without** member number will **not** be recognized

Ballots received after 15 DECEMBER 2023 will **not** be counted

**If you don't vote, you cannot complain**



# Posts

Please send changes to NA Jo Lawrence

## 1. New England

### Post 75, W Mass, W CT

Andrew 'Drew' Lyons, *interim*  
T: 860-305-4163  
andrewjlyons@yahoo.com

### Post 1812, RI, E Mass, E CT VACANT

T:

## 2. New York

## 3. Keystone

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## 8. Dakota Region

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## CAMPS



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Crest Badge \$20.00

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ SAMS Member ID# (required): \_\_\_\_\_

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303-618-8673 / [doristeffe@gmail.com](mailto:doristeffe@gmail.com)

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(Dues period July 1 to June 30 ~ \$35.00)

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Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ **DUES FOR 1 YEAR ARE \$35.00.**

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