

# CLAN POLLOCK INTERNATIONAL

## THE POLLAG

Cinnedah Pollag -- A Pool of Information

The Pollag  
November 2008

*"A person who takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors cannot expect to be remembered for his noble deeds by remote descendants."*

**Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalk, Poalke, Poulk, Poole, Pogue**

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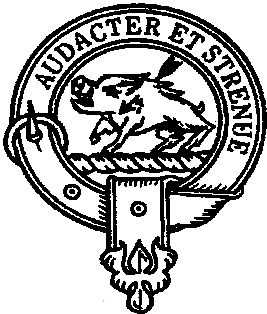
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*Audacter et Strenue*  
Boldly and Strongly

## Words from the President...



This is the final edition of the Pollag for 2008. As another year draws to a close, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of Clan Pollock. We know that our world wide economy is of concern, but we pray for peace and prosperity in the coming year.

Clara Ann and I enjoyed seeing so many members at the Grandfather Mountain Games in July and at the Long's Peak Games in September. It is always good to renew old friendships and make new ones.

Thanks to everyone who hosted a Clan Pollock tent at Highland Games & events this year. Among the members who took on this important job are:

Hamish Pollock, Richard Bugg, Ben & Merle Stone, Bryan & Susan Pollock, Bill, Ann, & Kitty Pollock, Robert Parrish, Jack & Sheila Pollock, Beth & Mike Avery, and Chrystin Pleasants. Please excuse me if I have left anyone off this list.

Thanks also to our officers and others who help keep Clan Pollock running smoothly. Thanks to the Averys for their great job as Editor of the Pollag. Also thanks to Howard Pollock for his work as our Treasurer, webmaster for ClanPollock.com and handling the web site sales of Clan Pollock items.

As we approach the end of the year, Clara Ann and I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving, a very blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*~A. D. Pollock, Jr.*

Clan Pollock President

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## **Editor's Notes**

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of The Pollag is January 25, 2009. Remember Clan Pollock members enjoy hearing your news. So send your news, to the editor, Beth Avery, at  
averyb@mail.otherwhen.com

## **WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS**

Tom Pollock, Aurora, Colorado  
Carl Reuth, Fort Collins, Colorado  
Jeri Lee Robb, Colorado Springs, Colorado

## **NEW COMMISSIONERS SECURED**

We are pleased to announce that we have two more new Commissioners who have volunteered to take over these important positions.

Katherine (Kitty) Pollock, Colorado Springs, Colorado has volunteered to become the Colorado Commissioner. Kitty is the daughter of Bill and Ann Pollock. Bill has been the Colorado Commissioner for the past two years after Matt & Vicki Pollock moved to Wyoming. Kitty will have valuable assistance and advice from her parents. The Games at Estes Park each year have one of the highest attendance of Clan Pollock members. Thank you, Kitty!

Dannett (Dani) Owens, Clovis, California has also volunteered to become the California Commissioner for the Fresno, California games. Dani's father, Richard Bugg, has hosted these games for many years. Dani will also have assistance and advice from her father and her sons. Thanks you, Dani, for stepping up and taking on this role!

As we announced to you in the last Pollag, Tim Stone has taken over the North Carolina Commissioner position from his father, Ben Stone.

We want to thank each of these who are carrying on their family tradition in service to Clan Pollock!

## **CLAN POLLOCK INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN GAMES JULY 12, 2008**

The twentieth Annual General Meeting of Clan Pollock International was held on Saturday, July 12, 2008 at the Clan Pollock tent site at Grandfather Mountain Scottish Games.

Attending the meeting were: Harriett & Tom Marshburn, Tom & Carol Pollock, Sheila and Jack Pollock, Merle and Ben Stone, Harry Stone, Rosemary & Rob Pollock, Jean & Henry Pollock, Tim Stone, Clara Ann & A.D. Pollock

A. D. Pollock, Clan Pollock President, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A.D. thanked Ben & Merle Stone for their work on hosting the tent at Grandfather Mountain. Henry Pollock gave the invocation.

Tom Marshburn made the motion (seconded by Ben Stone) to accept the 2007 minutes. Motion carried.

Harriett Marshburn made the motion (seconded by Carol Pollock) to accept the financial reports as presented in the packet. Motion carried. A.D. told the group that the Clan Pollock commemorative stone had been ordered for the Culloden, Scotland walkway. A.D. thanked Treasurer, Howard Pollock, for handling this for our group.

Under Old Business, A.D. told the group that no one has volunteered to accept the position of President or Vice President of Clan Pollock. Tim Stone, Ben & Merle's son, has agreed to accept the position of North Carolina Commissioner. Ben Stone made the motion (seconded by Rob Pollock) to appoint Tim Stone as the N.C. Commissioner. Motion carried. A.D. thanked Tim and his wife, Kelly, for agreeing to take on this most important position. Sheila and Jack Pollock

volunteered to host the Stone Mountain Games to take place October 17 - 19 at Stone Mountain, Georgia. A.D. thanked Sheila and Jack for their willingness to host this event.

Under New Business, A.D. mentioned Homecoming Scotland to take place in 2009 and more specifically, The Gathering to take place in July, 2009. Tom & Carol Pollock are interested in attending. Also Andy Pollock, one of our Canadian members, is planning to attend. A.D. has been discussing the possibility of Clan Pollock going in with Clan Maxwell to host a tent for this event. Ben Stone made the motion (seconded by Jack Pollock) to authorize Clan Pollock to spend up to \$700.00 US for sharing a tent space with Clan Maxwell. Motion passed.

A. D. mentioned that Major General Gale S. Pollock retired from the Army on June 27<sup>th</sup>. Gale is going to be the Executive Director for the Center for Ocular Regeneration and Visual Restoration at the University of Pittsburg Medical Center.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Clara Ann Pollock, Clan Pollock Secretary

## GAME REPORTS

### **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Longs Peak Scottish Irish Highland Festival Estes Park, Colorado, September 4 – 7, 2008**

This was our 3<sup>rd</sup> time to attend these Games and once again, we had a wonderful time! Clan Pollock was well represented by Commissioner Bill Pollock, his wife, Ann, and daughter, Kitty.



There was a good turnout both Saturday and Sunday at the Pollock tent. We also had good representation for the parade through downtown Estes Park on Saturday and later for the Parade of Tartans at the field.

We conducted a brief meeting at the tent going over the minutes from the AGM at Grandfather Mountain.

Other Clan Pollock members we visited with included: Matt & Vicki Pollock (& their dogs who were a big hit in the Parade); Norm & Vivian Pollock, Mark & Chris Pollock, Barney and Arlene Polk, Jerry & Shirley Pollock, and Ruth Woodward. Several others stopped by and expressed an interest in Clan Pollock. Two new members were signed up at the Games. Thanks to our grandson, Austin Slough, for his good job in carrying the Pollock flag in the parades. It's always nice to have a tall person carrying the flag!



*Ruth Woodward*

*Kent Woodward*

We would like to commend Kent and Peggy Woodward for their outstanding work in helping put on these Games. Kent and Peggy are Chairs of the Clans which is a very responsible position.

~Clara Ann & A.D. Pollock

### **Oregon and Washington Games**

The Bryan Pollock family represented Clan Pollock at a variety of games around the beautiful states of Washington and Oregon this summer.

We started the season at the Tacoma Highland Games in Graham, WA on June 29th. After a long, cold spring, summer arrived that day in force. As we all tried to acclimate to the 90° temperature, we were thankful that most of the activities were early in the day. David, our 15 year old Grade V piper, took 1<sup>st</sup> in the Slow Air and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the March. Also, our daughter, Esther, who competed as a beginner dancer for the first time at the games placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the Fling, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Seann Triubhas and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Sword. No Pollocks visited our tent, but very few people were there that day due to the heat.

At the Portland (OR) Games on July 19<sup>th</sup> , we had four guests with one requesting membership to Clan Pollock. A recently discovered fifth cousin to President James K. Polk came by specifically looking for us and we had a lengthy discussion on Pollock history. Again, Pollocks were represented at the Games. Our son, Jonathan, competed for the first time in Scottish Fiddle, placing third in the Junior Class.



David placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the Slow Air and Esther learned that you don't always win! Our tent was located across from the Heavy Athletic Field and the announcer kept us entertained with his "one-liners." My favorite, "Highland Heavy Athletics-- where the fat boy gets picked first!"



July 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> found us in Enumclaw, WA, site of the Pacific Northwest Highland Games and where we first met Howard Pollock four or five years ago and learned about Clan Pollock. The last two years we have been blessed with the "liquid sunshine" of the Pacific Northwest and the timing of it hits when we are beginning the Parade of Clans. This year the rain stayed with tradition on Sunday and we were pretty wet following the parade! It was good to see Diana Pollock, Howard's sister as well as many others we see each year at Enumclaw. The Canadian representation keeps the competition tough at these games. We were very pleased with Esther's hard work preparing herself for competition. Her hard work paid off giving her the Beginner Aggregate Trophy after placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Sword and Seann Triubhas and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Highland Fling. David continues to be in awe of the piping ability of those Canadians; he did place 4<sup>th</sup> in the 6/8 performing *McNeils of Ugadale*. The Pacific Northwest Highland Games were a great conclusion to the Highland Games season!



~ Bryan & Susan Pollock

## STONE MOUNTAIN GAMES

Jack and Shelia Pollock were at the Stone Mountain games this past weekend representing Clan Pollock. Their daughter, Alison Pollock Smith and her husband ,Bernie Smith, accompanied them and helped with setting up.

Gail Pollock Carden and her husband Mike stopped by with their son, Matthew and grand daughter, Avery. We all enjoyed catching up with news of family and friends.

The Games went well though numbers seemed to be down and chilly, overcast weather on Saturday was perhaps a cause. There were a good number of pipe bands and we were told a record number of actual participants on the field during the massed band parade.



The Pollock tent was quiet with only one family visiting who had been at Grandfather Mountain and were on their way home to Florida this time. They were the Polk family from Melborne. They expressed an interest in going to Scotland for the Gathering next year. A lady, Jane Pollock, stopped by to pick up a membership form and was glad to know she could visit the web site for more information. Only one or two other people stopped to check things out and we even had shortbread left over.

Sunday morning was very cold. We could see our breath as we made our way to the field early in the morning. the Kirkin'o' the Tartan began at 9am and there were very few flags and not so many audience either. We took it as a sign of the times and the temperature! The Pollock tent had few visitors and at noon several other tents were breaking up and we had to do the same as family obligations took over. We do not know if the Sunday afternoon crowd improved or not but hoped the vendors and athletes did well.

It seemed quieter to us than previous years and the folks around us felt the same. However, we had a good time and were able to partake of Scottish food and Irn Bru so we were happy. Hopefully the economic situation and world depression will not affect the Games to come. Always hope.

Good luck to all.....Audacter et Strenue.

~Jack and Sheila Pollock

## Celtic Heritage Festival 2008-Bedford, TX



For the first time in several years Clan Pollock was represented at these games. On Saturday, Chrystin Pleasants manned the booth on Saturday and Mike and I did on Sunday. The games were very sparsely attended and we had no one at the booth, except for a pleasant visit from Bill Stevens both days. Beth Avery represented the Clan at the Kirkin on Sunday. The plus side was that there was a music tent close by and you can hear some pretty decent music and you could also hear the main stage music very well and the Clan Ross folks next to us were very friendly. All of the clans noticed the lack of attendees this year. At the end of the games the organizers met with the Clan representatives to talk about moving the games to a new location and how we could work together to make them better.

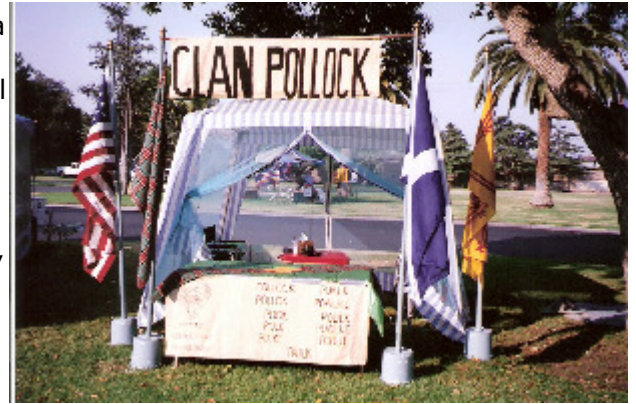
~Beth Avery

## Fresno Games

The 2008 Games in Fresno happened on the 13th of Sept. We had a beautiful day for it and God blessed us with a very mild day for this time of the year. Not much to report except that we had a beautiful day for it. We had a great crowd and of course lots of old friends that keep coming back each year. The Pollock Tent was manned by Richard and Dolores Bugg, Jacob Owens (grandson), Katherine Bugg Moreno, and Justin Owens another grandson. Jacob had a great time as he took first place in the Caber Toss for 17 year old group. This is something he has been trying to do for 5 years only to be edged out each time/ I'm proud of that boy to say the least. Didn't have any Pollock visitors this year. Too Bad because it was a beautiful day.



~C. Richard Bugg



~C. Richard Bugg

## UPCOMING GAMES

### New Scottish Festival Is Coming To North Carolina!!

Clan Pollock has been chosen as the honored Clan for these first time Games to be held on April 25, 2009,.

Colonial Capital Scottish Festival, located in New Bern, North Carolina, will hold its inaugural gathering on **April 25, 2009**. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm The Festival will be held at Lawson Creek Park, located on the lovely Trent River. Ben and Merle Stone live in New Bern. New Bern was the Colonial Capital of North Carolina from 1770-1775, and the first state capital.

For more information on these Games, go to their web site:

[www.colonialcapitalscottishfestival.org](http://www.colonialcapitalscottishfestival.org) or  
[info@colonialcapitalscottishfestival.org](mailto:info@colonialcapitalscottishfestival.org)

Let's try to have a good turnout from Clan Pollock for these Games.



## GENEALOGY CORNER

### Looking for information about Pollock Ancestors

#### I'm a Pollock in Western Australia - Have just found the Clan!

My great great great grandmother was **Margaret Pollock** born 11th June 1801 in Mearns Renfrew to one **Robert Pollock and Sarah Longbottom**.

Robert the father was also born in Mearns on the 17th March 1771, to **Robert Pollock and Mary Mather/ Maither**. She was born Eaglesham 26/ January, 1747 to a John Mather/ Maither. Robert her husband may have been born 18th July 1747, or in about 1742, to another Robert in Mearns Renfrew.

**Margaret Pollock married a James Christie** in Paisley whose son John emigrated to Australia.

Can you place any of these people in your tree? I couldn't because I don't know it well enough from more recent times. We were probably descended from a younger son of a younger son or something 'of that ilk', but to be able to link into such a grand history! I hope that because our family was in Mearns 'recently' my request is simpler.

We are having an Australia-wide family reunion of the Christies (and therefore Pollocks) on October 26th, 2008. My grandfather was named John Pollock Christie and was very proud of his name. Tonight I was able to tell my 84 year old mother why - and he has been dead for over 45 years.

I look forward to hearing from you .

Anthea Lowe (my mother was a Christie)

richardsonlowe@hotmail.com

Perth, Western Australia

## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

### **From Lifford to America Scotch-Irish and Pollock Beginnings in America Part 3 – Robert and Magdalen Polke**

In two earlier articles we described the arrival of the first identifiable group of Scotch-Irish in America, following the lead of the Presbyterian ministers Francis Makemie and William Trail who emigrated to Somerset County, Maryland, in 1683. We turn now to the first Polk/Pollock immigrants to America, generally recognized to be Robert Polke and his wife Magdalen (Tasker) Porter, from Donegal, Ireland, who arrived in Somerset several years later, certainly by 1687.

Much has been published about Robert and Magdalen Polke in various Polk/Pollock family histories, most notably "Polk Family and Kinsmen" by William H. Polk (1912), and the earlier articles by Mary Winder Garrett in the American Historical Magazine (Nashville, Tennessee) in 1896-99, under the title "Pedigree of the Pollok or Polk Family from Fulbert the Saxon to the Present Time." These works were written and published without as much access to primary source colonial era records as is now possible. Most of the family history in them was obtained from second or third hand sources, and unfortunately contains some errors which are contradicted by original records now available. Fortunately the land, court, probate and tax records of colonial Somerset are preserved almost in their entirety at the Maryland State Archives and these make it possible to sort out some of the fact and fiction concerning the family. The author has researched these records as thoroughly as possible and found many citations of Robert and Magdalen and their children in them, from which it is possible to develop a rather complete picture of their lives in Somerset. This will be published in detail in a forthcoming book with all references cited. The following is a short summary of the basic facts concerning this first Polk/Pollock family in America, as gleaned from the primary source records:

- Robert and Madgalen (R&M) came from Ballendrait, Parish of Lifford, County Donegal. Magdalen specifically mentioned the estate "Moneen" inherited there from her father, in her will written in 1726. (William Trail was minister at Ballendrait until his departure for Maryland in 1683.)
- From Irish records we know that Magdalen was the daughter of Roger Tasker, a local official who was given his lands in eastern Donegal by Sir Richard Hansard, Knight, one of the English undertakers assigned lands in Lifford during the Ulster Plantation (c.1608).

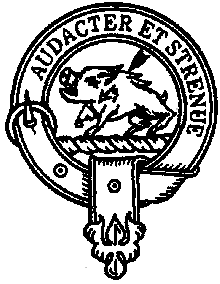
- Magdalen was first married to John Porter, an officer (quartermaster) in the royalist Army. He died in 1665-1666 and Magdalen and Robert appear to have married very shortly afterwards.
- The tradition in Ireland (per Keyes' family account) is that Robert Polke was an officer serving under Porter but no records have been located to establish Robert Polke's military history.
- The first record of Robert Polke in America is in the surveys for Polkes Folly and Polkes Lott, dated 7 March 1688; these cite a warrant issued to him on 20 November 1687 for 150 acres.
- A cattle earmark record for "John Pelke" was entered in Somerset land records on 5 September 1680; this individual was not John, son of R&M, but was clearly associated with them in some as yet unresolved way; he lived on a tract he named Locust Hummock in the Dames Quarter peninsula.
- R&M had 10 known children who survived to adulthood; in order, as best can be determined, they are: Ann, John, Margaret, William, Ephraim, James, Robert, David, Martha, Joseph
- Birthyears for some of the children are known from depositions in Somerset court records, as follows: Ann (1666), Margaret (1670), William (1673), Joseph (1689); others can be estimated by interpolating from their birth sequence.
- Robert's will was written 6 May 1699; a codicil was added 8 August 1702 changing the executors, dropping David who probably died in the interim. The will was proved on 5 June 1703.
- The will mentions all children except daughters Ann and Margaret; we know of them from other documents.
- The inventory of Robert's personal property at his death was assessed at a modest value of £50/6/11, mostly attributable to his livestock. The balance was for an assortment of basic tools and household items.
- Robert acquired three properties: Polkes Folly (100 acres), Polkes Lott (50 acres), and Forlorne Hope (100 acres), all located in Dames Quarter, or Damn Quarter as it was then known.
- R&M lived out their lives at Polkes Folly, at the head of Pigeon House Creek, located about two miles east of present-day Dames Quarter, MD.
- The supposed Polk ancestral home White Hall did not exist in Robert and Magdalen's time. The tract of that name was not patented until 1795 by Judge William Polk as a resurvey of a tract called Fortune first acquired in 1740 by his father, David Polk, son of William, son of R&M; it is located on the Wicomico River at Cuttmaptic Creek.
- R&M's oldest son John, used the name "Ballendret" for a parcel of land he purchased in 1693 near Princess Anne; this was located very near the property of Reverend Thomas Wilson, first minister of the Manokin Presbyterian Church.
- R&M's second oldest son, William, used the names Donegal (Denegall) and Moneen (Moanen) for lands surveyed for him in 1721. (These are located on the upper Nanticoke River now in Sussex county DE, but then considered to be in Maryland.)
- Robert appears at least 45 times in Somerset or Maryland colonial records; the most common spelling of his surname is "Polke" (31 times); the other spellings are Poke (8), Polk (4), Pollock(1), Polyke(1).
- Robert's original will is lost but a transcript is in the Maryland Prerogative Court records; the transcript consistently uses the spelling "Polke."
- The middle name "Bruce" never appears as part of Robert Polke's name in the colonial records. (This was first introduced in Mary Winder Garrett's articles on the Pollok/Polk family (1896) and repeated in "Polk Family and Kinsmen." Unfortunately it has been widely used ever since, but should be omitted.)
- No rank such as Captain was ever attached to Robert's name in colonial records.
- The name Pollock was frequently used by the children of Robert's sons James and Joseph.
- Robert's oldest sons John and William acquired lands at the head of the Manokin River near present-day Princess Anne. William's descendants acquired extensive lands there; John's only son, William, relocated to an area within the limits of present-day Salisbury, MD.
- There is no evidence in Maryland records that William Polk, son of R&M, had sons named William or Charles; the evidence is very much to the contrary. William did have two sons, James and David, and two daughters Jane and Mary, all of whom are very well documented in Somerset records. (In "Polk Family and Kinsmen", W. H. Polk states that William Polk, progenitor of the North Carolina Polks, and his purported brother, Charles Polke, the Indian Trader, were sons of William Polk, son of R&M. From W.H Polk's private correspondence now archived in the University of Kentucky Library, it is clear this was simply speculation.)
- Robert's sons, Ephraim, James and Robert, Jr. acquired extensive additional lands in the Dames Quarter area in early 1700's; Joseph remained at Polkes Folly with Magdalen until her death in 1728 (age ~ 92).
- The children of Ephraim, James, Robert, Jr. and Joseph mostly moved to the upper Nanticoke area, between Seaford and Bridgeville, Delaware, beginning in 1720's. At the time that area was considered as part of Maryland. (The present MD-DE boundary was surveyed by Mason and Dixon in 1763.)
- The Polk lands in Dames Quarter were sold by Joseph Polk in 1740 and he relocated to the area a bit west of present-day Bridgeville, Delaware.
- No one of the name Polk/Pollock resided in the Dames Quarter area after 1740; most of the original Polk lands have subsided and are now marshlands within the Deal Island Wildlife Management Area.

John F. Polk, Ph.D.

Historia, Clan Pollock International

**Clan Pollock International**

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Motto: *Boldly and Stronaly*

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