

CLAN POLLOCK INTERNATIONAL

THE POLLAG

Cinnedah Pollag -- A Pool of Information

The Pollag
August 2009

“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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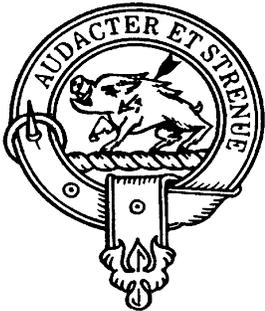
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Audacter et Strenue
Boldly and Strongly

Words from the President...



Another year is speeding by – school will be starting soon in many parts of the country. It's been an unusual July in Kentucky – cool and rainy – but I know many of you have experienced lots of heat and drought. We wish for you some of the rain we've been having.

Congratulations to Tim & Kelly Stone for the outstanding job they did at the recent Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. We saw lots of people at the Clan Pollock tents and enjoyed our days there. Thanks to everyone who helped out by bringing food and helping set up and take down the tent. We hope more of our members can make this trip next year.

While at the Grandfather Mountain Games I attended the annual meeting of COSCA (Council of Scottish Clans and Association, Inc.). Clan Pollock received a certificate from President Christie Harrison for fifteen years of continuous membership. Our Clan is one of the original COSCA members.

All clans are having the same problem of a "graying" membership and needing to attract younger members. Several suggestions were discussed but most revolved around using technology such as Facebook, My Space, and Twitter. Also discussed was the use of Skype, a computer program which allows you to make calls over the Internet using the speaker & microphone mode on your computer to do so. For example, using Skype will allow you to call Scotland for as little as 2.1 cents per minute. There are some "Pollock" groups on Facebook now. We need to take advantage of these more.

We would like to recognize members of Clan Pollock and/or family members who are now serving or who have served in the Armed Forces. Please contact us with this information so that we may do so.

We are looking forward to the Estes Park, Colorado Games September 10 – 13 and the Seaside Games in Ventura, CA October 9 – 11. We hope to see some of you who live in or visit these areas during these dates.

We are always in need of volunteers to become Clan Pollock officers; Commissioners; and Conveners. Please contact us if you would be willing to take on any of these important positions.

Best Wishes,

A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock

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Editor's Notes

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of The Pollag is October 28th. Remember Clan Pollock members enjoy hearing your news. So send your news, to the editor, Beth Avery, at averyb@mail.otherwhen.com

via two different companies) did confirm that I am of the same family line as William Polk/Margaret Taylor (great-grandparents of President James Knox Polk), but way back in Scotland, several hundred years back, but did not confirm the closeness (2nd cousin, 4 generations removed of President Polk) that I believed was proven. Anyone who has any questions, feel free to contact me at billpolk@publicnetworking.org. Bill Polk, Kansas City, MO.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Memberships received since our last Pollag

James K. Polk, East Bend, N.C. * Rejoin
 Rhett K. Pollock, Burgaw, N.C.

A NEW POLLOK

Clan Pollock welcomes Thomas Leland Maxwell Pollok who was born November 21, 2007. Thomas H. B. Pollok is the proud father.

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

James W. Pollock, of Colorado passed away 1 March 2009.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COLONEL JOHN L. POLLOCK

We send our congratulations to Colonel John L. Pollock, son of Henry and Elizabeth Pollock, on John's recent promotion to Colonel, U.S. Army. John, a graduate of the University of North Carolina, was promoted on May 30, 2009. John and his family are currently stationed in Heidelberg, Germany. John is the Adjutant General for USARA.

UPDATE ON BRYAN POLLOCK

On July 30th Bryan was diagnosed with aspiration pneumonia. Hopefully a course of amoxicillin and hopefully he will be back to battling *only* cancer. Please continue to keep Bryan, his family and doctors in your thoughts and prayers.

POLK DNA GROUP

We have a Polk DNA group at Ancestry.com, that has 20+ members. More

and more people, including myself, are getting or have been tested, and we have some surprising results. Results are still pending for some people who were tested, but as an example of a surprise, my own ancestry to the Polks of Mecklenburg is wrong, and I spent more than 22 years on that ancestry, would have bet money it was correct. People, Polk and Pollock, are sure invited to take a look and might want to see about verifying their own Polk/Pollock ancestry, especially anyone who thinks they are descendants of William Polk/Margaret Taylor of Mecklenburg, Co., NC., and more especially, of John Polk and Eleanor Shelby who d. in 1803 (both of them), York Co., SC. My test (I did two

POLLOCKS**From Carriagehill, Paisley, Scotland to Perth, Western Australia**

It has always saddened me to see Margaret Pollock as simply a name sitting 'alone' on the Christie family tree. Finally, on September 12 2008 - there she was! Not only herself and her parents but also her brothers and sisters! Following 20 years of research, and 125 years of lost contact, I was able to return my great, great, great grandmother Margaret Pollock to her family.

Margaret was the eldest child born, on June 11th 1800, in Paisley to Robert Pollock of Mearns and Sarah Longbottom from Halifax, Yorkshire. The great granddaughter of Robert Pollock of Mearns b 1730; and granddaughter of Robert Pollock b1756 and Mary Mather of Mearns. She was also sister to Elizabeth Pollock bp 15/2/1807, Alexander Pollock bp 23/8/1812, Mary Pollock bp 20/4/1811, William Mather Pollock bp 7/7/1816, and Mary Pollock bp. 30/7/1820. Margaret Pollock Christie died at 10:30 am on June 3 1890 of old age, the widow to John Christie (dec) and the death was witnessed by her son Robert Christie of 8 Lylesland, Paisley.

When sharing the wonderful discoveries with my elderly mother, she remarked how proud her father - John Pollock Christie - was of his name, so I searched on the words John Pollock - only to discover the ancient 'origins' of the Pollock Family and Clan Pollock!

My ancestors reached out across history and across thousands of miles in 2008, as did two Scottish cousins descended from Margaret's brother Alexander Pollock, plus yourselves at Clan Pollock, and a Richmond cousin, from the USA. After one hundred and twenty five (125) years of lost contact, I have received a wonderful and warm 'welcome' to the family - and I look forward to giving that welcome to many more!

Just as her mother in law Margaret Richmond had watched her son James Christie and his son John Spence Christie, leave Paisley for the colony of Western Australia and another son Robert take his family to the colony of Queensland, Margaret Pollock saw her son James Christie leave Carriagehill, Paisley, with his wife Susan, nee Reid, and 5 of six children to follow them to the new land in 1882.



*Illustration 1:
Agnes Pollock, b
26 Sept 1863;
brother
Alexander
Pollock, b 6 Mar
1862; father
Andrew Pollock,
b 3 Jun 1840*



Move forward to late October 2008, to a community hall within sight of both James and John Spence Christie's old houses, and you see two families of Christies who had lived in Perth, Western Australia, since the 1880's, and Roberts descendants from Queensland, meeting for the first time for probably four generations.

The family tree reaching down and through the centuries was displayed with old family photos and mementos. I displayed Robert and Sarah Pollock's line of descendants and a photograph, sent to me by my Pollock cousins in Scotland, of Margaret's brother Alexander with his son and daughter. The men were almost identical to Margaret's grandson and my grandfather! Likewise, even though many of us had never met before, the strangest thing was that we 'knew' each other. Some we had heard of in public life, or family stories, but then there were the faces we had never seen before and who were familiar because their faces also belonged to family we knew. For instance, one of the men was identical to an ancient, unidentified photograph from Scotland in the 1860's!

*Illustration 2:
John Pollock
Christie*

In the speeches of the day I brought the family greetings on your behalf from Clan Pollock and our other new relatives. When they heard the Pollock family was at the laying of the first stone of the original Abbey (1160) there was a shocked silence - and then if it was possible, they stood even taller. We gathered that day to celebrate the bravery of our ancestors at striking out for the unknown to give their children and children's, children's children a better future. Our ancestors no doubt shed many a tear under the harsh Australian sun, of homesickness, for family, friends, and the soft Scottish air.



*Illustration 3: A few Christies, Perth,
Western Australia, 2007*

Today I write this for "The Pollag". Just as we are proud of our forebears, they in turn can be very proud of their descendants.

We have survived; we have prospered and made our mark in every aspect of Australian life and history to help build this proud young nation. We thank them for the opportunity they gave us to be proud Australians of Scottish descent. We stand tall as ANZACS in the tradition of the Scottish spirit of victory over hardship.

About ten years ago we were told the Christie family had died out in Scotland when our last family link to the family in Scotland died. They haven't, because (aside from some of Margaret Pollock's Christie children) – we are Pollocks!

Anthea Lowe

UPCOMING GAMES

Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival Estes Park, Colorado September 10-13, 2009

The 33rd Annual Longs Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival will be on September 10-13, 2009, at the Stanley Park Fairgrounds in Estes Park, Colorado. These are the largest games in Colorado. A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock of Greenville Kentucky, our President and Secretary respectively, are planning to attend. Bill, Ann and Kitty Pollock of Colorado Springs will also be attending. Not only will the days be filled with many Scottish and Irish activities, as well as a military encampment and jousting, the evenings offer 4 different concerts and the Military Tattoo. Please come join us. We will be once again be sharing a corner spot with Clan Maxwell. Tickets can be purchased in Colorado at King Soopers. Or you can call the festival at 1-800-90-ESTES or email at Email-info@scotfest.com. Additional information about events is available at <http://www.scotfest.com>

~Kitty Pollock

SEASIDE HIGHLAND GAMES VENTURA, CALIFORNIA OCTOBER 9, 10, & 11, 2009

We will host the first time Pollock tent at these Games at Seaside Park in Ventura, California. We hope some of our California Pollocks will be able to join us for these Games. For more information visit the website: www.seaside-games.com



See you in October!

~A.D. And Clara Pollock

GAME REPORTS



GLASGLOW, KY HIGHLAND GAMES, MAY 30, 2009

The Glasgow Highland Games were held at Barren River State Park May 29 - 31 this year. We hosted the Clan Pollock tent and had some old friends come by as well as new friends. Our tent was next to Clan Kerr on one side and Clan Young on the other - enjoyed talking to Joe Kerr, a long time friend, and meeting Nancy Hale in the Clan Young tent. Phillip Pogue and Dee Robbins from Stanton, Ky and some other friends of Phillip's stopped by on Saturday and Alicia Arbuckle from Greenville, KY and her family came by on Sunday. The weather was nice and we were glad to be back at these Games after an absence of a few years.

Illustration 4: A.D. Pollock, Dee Robbins and Phillip Pogue

~ A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock

THE GATHERING July 25-26, Edinburgh, Scotland

Over 20,000 people and 125 clans came together for The Gathering in Edinburgh, Scotland including our own Ben Stone, Tim Stone and Andy Pollock who hosted a tent for Clan Pollock. Look for their report in the next Pollag. In the mean time see more about and listen to Prince Charles officially opened The Gathering at <http://scotland.stv.tv/the-gathering/>

~Beth Avery

**GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN
11 July 2009**



*Illustration 5: Clara Ann Pollock,
Rob Pollock, and Wilson Stone*



*Illustration 6: Rosemary Pollock and
Merle Stone*



*Illustration 7: Parade of
Tartans, Wilson Stone and
Ben Stone*



*Illustration 8: Wilson and
Caroline Stone with their
cousin Hayley*



*Illustration 9: Charlene Pogue
Young and Gail Pollock
Carden*

CLAN POLLOCK AND THINGS SCOTTISH ONLINE

Beth Avery

I will add to the list as I find more sites. It will be on the Pollag wiki (see below)

Facebook:

There are several Clan Pollock pages. Among them:

Clan Pollock International page

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=logo#/group.php?gid=56016161554&ref=search>

Some other Clan Pollock pages

Clan Pollock (started by David Pollock, Hartford, CT)

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=55142608383&ref=search>

Private group: contact jengeldart@hotmail.com for information

Clan Pollock/Layman (started by Paul Layman)

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=75566951935&ref=search>

MySpace

Pollock Pines People <http://groups.myspace.com/PollockPinesPeople>

Scottish Firefighters – there's already a Pollock who is a member

<http://groups.myspace.com/brothersofthekilt>

Samuel & Catherine Pollock (Private Group) This group was created for the descendants of Samuel & Catherine Pollock.

Pollag Wiki

At this wiki you will find current issues of the Pollag, genealogy information and additional information from the Pollag, the Newsletter of Clan Pollock and information about Clan Pollock.

<http://pollag.pbworks.com/>

ON THE AIR

Scottish Voice: The voice of Scotland in Montreal, Canada radio programs can be heard at:

<http://scottishvoice.org/>

Scotland on TV Find a good portion of information, recipes, Music and more. You can view the "Made in Scotland" series <http://www.scotlandontv.tv> and a piece about Andross farm shop and the organic farm run by the Pollock family, <http://video.stv.tv/bc/entertainment-fivethirty-20080801-natural-farm-food/>

BBC Radio Scotland includes podcasts of "Scotland's Funny Bits" from the previous week's BBC broadcasts and "Completely Burns" over 300 recorded poems of of Robert Burns as well as recordings of programs on piping and dancing music: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radioscotland/>

OTHER WEB PAGES AND COMMUNITIES

World Celtic Connection (www.worldceltic.com) is an online community for all things of Celtic interest.

Cindi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

FLICKR

Right now there are only two pictures when you search for Clan Pollock. You can find many locations with "Pollock" in the names. Why not add some of your pictures.

<http://www.flickr.com/search/?q=clan+pollock>

BLOGS

Genabloggers lists many genealogy blogs. <http://www.geneabloggers.com/>

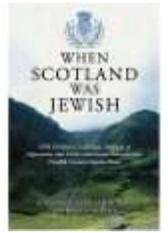
Canadian Genealogy or Jane's Your Aunt. <http://canadagenealogy.blogspot.com/>

25 Most Popular Genealogy Blogs list is at <http://www.progenealogists.com/top25blogs2009.htm>

SAVE TREES, SEE THE PICTURES IN COLOR

Just a reminder: you can have your *Pollag* delivered to your e-mail in box. You'll get it sooner than the print copy. In fact, you'll receive it just minutes after Beth finishes putting it together. If you want your newsletter as a .pdf, send Beth an e-mail at averyb@mail.otherwhen.com

Book Review: *When Scotland Was Jewish: DNA Evidence, Archeology, Analysis of Migrations, and Public Family Records That Show Twelfth Century Semitic Roots* by Donald Yates and Elizabeth Hirschman. McFarland, 2007. \$55.00.



You may find this idea controversial, but here goes!

Yates and Hirschman believe that many of us Scots are descended from Crypto-Jews (secret Jews) such as we have here in New Mexico. They include the Pollocks in that group, which included many families who came from France to England around the time of William the Conqueror, some of whom then went on to Scotland at the behest of King David I. They have done some genealogy work on descendants of such families, but not on the Pollocks, who appear merely as listees on cemetery and craft guild records.

The descendants they have studied have Haplogroup R1b (RLB) which is Hispanic/Mediterranean. They believe that the families were mostly Hispanic, not descended from Patriarch Abraham, but converted, probably in the seventh to the ninth centuries in Spain, Portugal, and S.W. France. The families, many of whom were traders, merchants, and professional people who were in the service of kings, moved to northern France and Flanders. Some of them continued on to England and then to Scotland.

Most of them, like the Hispanic Jews of New Mexico where I live, were Christians, either sincerely or as cover, but they kept some of their Jewish home worship customs and symbols which they used on memorials and in churches. The book shows various photos of these symbols, although most of them are not as clear as might be desired. I see the same "pyramid" with the Tetragrammaton within it that is over the door of St. Francis Cathedral in Santa Fe. The Tetragrammaton is the name of God written in four Hebrew letters, sometimes pronounced "Jehovah" or "Yaweh".

You may say that Christians also use the Tetragrammaton; yes, that's true, and what Yates and Hirschman state could be challenged in many particulars. But there seems to be enough evidence in the names, DNA, migration patterns, and lifestyle of these Scots to indicate that they could have been Sephardic Jews. Whether Jewish or not, their history is interesting!

After the first wave in the 11th and 12th century, another wave of these people came in the 13th and 14th century Scotland, and the historical reasons for these migrations, including the development of trading networks throughout many countries of the Old World and the New World. Alexander Hamilton might be a type of "trader" whose family migrated to the Caribbean and then on to the USA.

The authors also discuss the Melungeon people of southeast USA, whom they claim are descended from similar Scots and Hispanics from Iberia and Indians of the New World, and from whom Abraham Lincoln, Tom Hanks, and Ava Gardner are descended.

They also mention the Border Rievers DNA project, which they think is related, and which would include my mother's Elliott family. I can't be involved in this project because I'm female, and it's a male-descent DNA project. The Border Rievers lived on the border of England and Scotland, and included some names with which Pollocks are familiar, such as Maxwell.

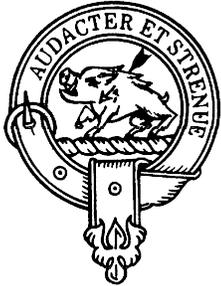
This book is expensive on Amazon.com, so I got it through an interlibrary loan. My copy came from a library in Texas. Reviews pro and con can be found on Amazon.com. I think I may write one there myself. [Editor's note: There are at least 108 libraries around the world that have this book, so you probably will be able to borrow it.]

~ Mariel Strauss (descended on dad's side from Margaret Jane Pollock, born in Dundee, Scotland)



Clan Pollock International

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Motto: Boldly and Strongly

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GAMES CALENDAR

AUGUST

7-9 Ontario, Canada. Fergus Highland Games & Festival. <http://www.fergusscottishfestival.com>

15 ME. Maine Games at Brunswick, <http://www.mainehighlandgames.org>

22 IA. Celtic Highland Games, Davenport. <http://www.celtichighlandgames.org>

22 VT. Quechee Scottish Festival, MacInnes. <http://www.standrewssocietyofvermont.org>

SEPTEMBER

4-5 CA. Pleasanton Games Alameda County Fairground. <http://www.caledonian.org/>

5-6 VA. Virginia Scottish Games, Alexandria. <http://www.vascottishgames.org/>

10-13 CO. Long's Peak Scottish/Irish Highland Festival, Estes Park, Colorado. <http://www.scotfest.com>.

Clan Pollock will have a tent.

12-14 OK. The Oklahoma Scottish Games & Gathering, Tulsa. <http://www.tulsascottishgames.org>

18-20 NH. The New Hampshire Highland Games, Loon Mountain. <http://www.nhscot.org/>

19 SC. Charleston Highland Games. Mt. Pleasant. <http://charlestonescots.org/>

26-27 KS. McPherson, KS Scottish Festival and Highland. <http://www.macfestival.org>

OCTOBER

3-4 12 TX. Bedford Celtic Heritage Festival. Grand Prairie, TX. <http://www.celticheritagefestival.org>

4 CT. St Andrew's Society Highland Games Fairgrounds, Goshen, <http://www.sasct.org>.

10-11. CA. Seaside Scottish Games, Ventura. <http://www.seaside-games.com>

Clan Pollock will have a tent.

12 CT. Scotland Highland Festival, Scotland, CT. <http://www.scotlandgames.org>

16-18 GA. Stone Mountain Highland Games, Atlanta. <http://www.smhg.org>

17 KY. West Kentucky Highland Festival, Murray. <http://www.wkyhighlandfestival.com/>

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A TENT AT ANY OF THESE GAMES OR ANY OTHER, CONTACT A.D. Pollock, President.