



CLAN CHISHOLM SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN BRANCH

P.O. Box 1091
Keene, NH 03431

SPRING/SUMMER 1991

Fellow Clansmen,

It's that time of the year again when families gather together for reunions, cookouts and plan lots of leisure activities. Summer is off to a great start -- hope that all of you enjoy your vacations and activities!

INTERNATIONAL GATHERING 1991

As many of you know, Nova Scotia will host the International Gathering this year. Scottish festivals, carnivals and games are scheduled throughout the summer for your enjoyment. The opening Tattoo will take place in Halifax from July 1 - 7. For more detailed information you can write to Scottish Societies Association of Nova Scotia, P.O. Box 5125, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3L 4M7 or by calling 1-800-565-1563 or 902-422-1406.

The Antigonish Highland Games are scheduled from July 12 - 14. Clan Chisholm Day is planned for Tuesday, July 9 and our Nova Scotia Branch welcomes all Chisholms to this event. Their Annual Meeting is scheduled for 2:00 PM at Club 60, Main St., Antigonish, near Columbus Field. At 4:00 PM meet at the Cairn on St. Ninian Street and at 5:00 PM at the Claymore Inn for Clan hour with a 6:30 PM dinner (lobster, salmon, roast beef @ \$20.00). Reservations can be made by mail to the Nova Scotia Branch, Box 1263, Antigonish, NS B2G 1L6 or by calling Rod at 902-863-3759.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Come out and show your colors! Plan to attend one of the events scheduled during this games season. Chisholms have been represented at Dunedin, FL; Glasgow, KY; and next scheduled to appear at the NH Games in September. A sampling of events follows. Call or write for specific details. We do our best to provide accurate information but it's always best to check on them before you make your plans.

SCOTTISH EVENTS 1991

June

- 22 Tidewater Scottish Festival & Gathering
Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Norfolk, VA
Box 2000, Virginia Beach, VA 23452
- 22 York Scots-Irish Fair
York Fairgrounds, York, PA
- 22 Massachusetts Highland Games
Waltham High School Athletic Field, Waltham, MA
P.O. Box 2316, Cambridge, MA 02238

July

- 9 Clan Chisholm Day
Nova Scotia Branch, Antigonish
- 12 - 14 Antigonish Highland Games
Antigonish, Nova Scotia
- 13 - 14 Grandfather Mountain Highland Games
Linville, NC
P.O. Box 356, Banner Elk, NC 28604
- 20 Indiana Highland Games
Zollner Stadium
Fort Wayne, IN
- 20 Pikes Peak Highland Games & Gathering
Western Sportsman Association's Monument Lake Resort
Monument, CO
- 27 Indianapolis Scottish Festival
Eagles Crest at Eagle Creek Park
Indianapolis, IN
2506 Willowbrook Pkwy, Suite 312,
Indianapolis, IN 46205
- 27 - 29 Virginia Scottish Games
Episcopal High School
Alexandria, VA

August

- 10 3rd Annual High Desert Celtic Festival
Deschutes County Fairgrounds, Redmond, OR
652 SE Wilson Ave., Bend, OR 97782

- 16 - 17 Maine Highland Games
Thomas Point Beach
Brunswick, ME
- 24 Quechee Scottish Festival
Quechee Polo Field
Quechee, VT
Rod MacLay, P.O. Box 28, S. Strafford, VT 05070
- 31 to
Sept. 1 Calendonian Club of San Francisco
Highland Games & Gathering
Santa Rosa, CA

Sept.

- 13 - 15 New Hampshire Highland Games
Loon Mountain, Lincoln, NH
P.O. Box 130, Cambridge, MA 02238-0130
- 14 Blue Ridge Highlands Scottish Festival
Wasena Park, Roanoke, VA
P.O. Box 8701, Roanoke, VA 24014-0701
- 21 Oklahoma Scottish Games & Gathering
Manion Park, Tulsa, OK
- 27 - 29 Celtic Classic
Bethlehem, PA
- 28 Williamsburg Scottish Festival
Williamsburg, VA
- 29 New Jersey Scottish Heritage Festival
Garden State Arts Center, Holmdel, NJ

Oct.

- 5 8th Annual Scottish Festival
Goshen Agricultural Society Fairgrounds
Goshen, CT
- 5 - 6 Flora MacDonald Highland Games
Singleton Meadows, Red Springs, NC
- 19 - 20 Stone Mountain Highland Games & Festival
Stone Mountain Park, Stone Mountain, GA
- 26 Highlands & Islands Scottish Festival
Hiller Park, Biloxi, MS
1085 Bayview, Biloxi, MS 39530
- 26 - 27 Tucson Celtic Festival
Tucson, AZ

REPORT OF CLAN GATHERINGS AND GAMES

25th Annual Dunedin Highland Games
Dunedin, FL
April 20, 1991

The morning of the 25th annual Dunedin Highland Games dawned grey and cloudy. As always, tents were set up and tables, etc. were in place before we got there. We unloaded our gear in a drizzling rain, but as soon as everything was in the tent the rain got heavier and heavier. The wind whipped up and for a while we had quite a storm and it was very cold. Everyone sat in their tents with everything still packed up as cold rain poured and strong winds blew it in on us. I did not hear any complaining. People laughed and passed hot drinks (and stronger) back and forth between the tents and there was much joking about "any Highlander would feel at home in this" and that "since we are all rugged, sturdy Scots, this is nothing; it is a balmy day for us". Spirits were high as we sat out the delay. About 10:30 it blew over. We all came out from under protective wraps, dried off the tables and uncovered and set up our displays. We displayed my brother Roger's collection of old Scottish weapons, authentic reproductions and one antique basket hilt broadsword recovered from a battlefield in Scotland. We set up items of Highland dress that had belonged to Roger, maps and clan information. We have a special table with all Clan Chisholm Society literature and a large sign that says "Clan Chisholm Society of America" and bears a reproduction of the coat of arms. This is placed next to the table.

Finally, the announcement to "let the Games begin" and as competition and fun swung into action the clouds blew away, the sun came out and the crowd picked up fast. The music and dance competitions are held inside the recreation center building to one side of the building. It is quite a thrill to listen to the youths practicing pipes & drums behind the tents as they prepare for their turns to perform in full Highland dress and to watch as they march proudly toward the building at their assigned time. It is a pleasure to the eye and heart to watch young girls, in full dress also, running happily and expectantly to compete in the fling, sword dance, etc. While on the field the athletes perform feats that Scots have held dear for ages and all in the best Scottish tradition.

In between athletic competitions there were parades -- a parade of bands and the parade of tartans -- circling the field, plus the always popular exhibition of the trained dogs herding the sheep and a new twist -- ducks! They were herded into line by the dogs and marched behind their owner in follow the leader fashion no matter how many twists and turns he put them through, all the time being closely supervised by the dogs who were always on the alert for an errant duckling.

The day was just beautiful from the time the rain had stopped. There was constant activity -- colorful, exciting, interesting. One pastime dear to the heart is visiting each others tents, meeting Scots who are new to the games and renewing old acquaintances. I was confined to our tent this year due to a temporary handicap. There were Chisholms from as far away as Canada. Most, however, have moved permanently to Florida or have winter homes here. All gave Dunedin's games high marks. Finally, the thrilling and stirring Massed Bands, the sight and sound of which brings pride to all Scottish hearts even though it regretfully signaled the end of our Silver Anniversary Games. So, tired and happy we packed up and went home, looking forward to the next 25 years!

Submitted by Sylvia R. Chisholm
Tampa, FL

CHISHOLM TENT, DUNEDIN GAMES



1 to :

Beverly Chisholm, Bradenton, FL; Robert Bruce Chisholm;
Bonnie Jean Chisholm Cross; Sylvia R. Chisholm, Tampa, FL;
John Moctezuma, James Welsh.

Glasgow Highland Games
Glasgow, KY
May 28 - June 2, 1991

The 1991 Glasgow (Kentucky) Highland Games were opened and closed by the Earl of Cromartie, Chief of the Clan MacKenzie. A large gathering of MacKenzies welcomed their chief and his spirited lady and applauded the leadership of Games president Robert E. MacKenzie Harrison and his lady.

The military bands of the Canadian Seaforth Highlanders and the Quantico, Virginia Marine Corps unit, along with area bands, brought the first - and very impressive - Tattoo to the Games.

A new dimension was added to the Friday evening Ceilidh by Celtic harpist Lisa Grey McKeachie, whose rare hometown appearance delighted her audience.

The Chisholm/Chism tent at the Games field, manned by Timothy Kirkpatrick Chism and Jean Chism on Saturday and by Betsy Chism Bailey and James Gillenwater on Sunday, drew a good number of visitors and inquiries. Among clansfolk signing in from several states and over Kentucky were Chism Family Association president James Chism of Louisville and his wife Doris.

Jeanette (Mrs. Tim) Gillenwater, as one of the directors of the Games, was a very busy young lady throughout the Games and long before.

Chisholm/Chism family members participated in many Games events. Timothy K. Chism, Jr., Tim Gillenwater and Justin Gillenwater all finished the 5-K run in good order. Mollie Kaite Laird, Justin Gillenwater and Jamie Gillenwater led their respective age groups in the "kilted mile", although young Jamie barely edged out a sprinting Clan Douglas rival. Kirk Laird, drum sergeant of the local pipers and drummers, was on duty throughout the Games, with a break to attend his first Tartan Ball.

A new wind-up event for the Games was a fast-moving "Rugby Sevens" game between Louisville, KY and Nashville, TN on Sunday afternoon, with play-by-play commentary by Tim Gillenwater, one-time player for Louisville as well as Nashville's Vanderbilt University.

The Chisholms/Chisms were not able to boast of a dancer this year, in the absence of Maris McCullough Ryan, and had no participants in the golfing or traditional athletic events. But there are years to come, and more and more Chisholms/Chisms to join the Parade of Tartans are ever welcome.

Submitted by Marqueta Gillenwater
(Mrs. James Gillenwater)

UPCOMING REUNIONS

Chism Reunion
NE/KS/IA/MO
August 11, 1991

This family reunion is scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 11, 1991 at Tony and Luigi's, 5140 O Street, Lincoln, NE at noon. A buffet will be served.

If anyone from out of town is coming and needs a motel, The Villager Motor Inn, 5200 O Street is across the street (phone 464-9111). All are invited to attend. Come a little early and visit.

Biennial Chism Gathering in 1992
Louisville, KY
July 30, 31 and Aug. 1, 1992

Just a note to say that the dates of this event have been changed from those discussed in Dallas last year. The new dates are one week earlier than usual due to a conflict in convention schedules in the area. James A. Chism, President of Chism Family Association, has extended an invitation to all who would like to attend. More details upcoming.

Chism Reunion
Springfield, Missouri
June 14 - 16, 1991

Although this event has already taken place, I thought that you might like to know a little about this group of Chisms.

Colonel Isham Chism was born in Mississippi in the year 1818. He came to Texas in 1837 with his mother. Settled in Nacogdoches Co., Texas. His uncle, Elijah Chism was already there. Elijah Chism was born in VA. He had 3 wives, the first two are uncertain, #3 was Salina Baily Nesbett. His children were born in Tenn., Miss., and Texas. He had 11 children; John, Mary, William P., Isham Russell, Gillington, Elijah Jr., James Madison, Claiborne, Thomas J., Rebecca Jane and Andrew J.

Colonel Isham married Charlotte Martin in 1841 in Nacogdoches, TX. Their children: Felix R., John T., Isham (Leona's grandfather), Samuel M. (Mark's grandfather), Rebecca Ann, William E., Susan Iona, Jeff Davis and Mary Aelia. Jeff and John T left no issue. We have found descendants of Rebecca, and Mary Aelia and are searching for William and Felix's descendants. We have many of Elijah's descendants, finding more each day.

In the past, we had only small reunions (my family) here in Texas. Mark Chisum was also doing family research in Alaska. He knew where the old Colonel had died and found me. Things really took off, he knew so many more Chisums than I did and we now have bigger and better reunions.

All Chisums are invited no matter how they spell their name. Just recently I spoke to some people that spell the name Chisa and they belonged to our linkage.

This report and invitation was submitted recently by Leona Chisum Fischer, Box 219, Johnson City, TX 78636 who is Secretary/Treasurer of the group. Mark Chisum, mentioned in this report is the President of the group and a member of CCSA.

Events scheduled for this reunion included a canoe trip, a luncheon, and dinner (with a pool reserved for afterwards) and a tour of the Wilson Creek Battlefield where Colonel Isham Chisum and his sons fought a battle during the Civil War.

REPORT ON TRIP TO CHISHOLM COUNTRY IN JUNE/JULY 1990

We left our group tour in Edinburgh and rented a car and drove up to Inverness. We had a most fantastic visit with Duncan and Mary Chisholm. Duncan was at a Council meeting and joined us in the Shop about 11:30 -- he then took us under his wing so to speak and toured Inverness with us. He took us over to the Town Hall where he showed us the crests of the Chisholms, Forbes and Frazers in the big stained glass window. He then showed us the Council Chamber (where Princess Di joined them in August for a meeting). Duncan also informed us that the Queen had requested he and Mary's presence at her Edinburgh meeting on July 12th. He believed this was due to his new position on the Council.

Next, Duncan took us on a four hour tour of "Chisholm Country". He makes an excellent tour guide and we suggested that he make a video of our tour with his commentaries -- said we felt sure it would sell well at the Clan gatherings. The biggest thrill was visiting the newly cleaned up burial ground of the Clan Chieftans. Duncan explained that it was believed that this was an old Druid mound -- it is high on a hill -- with a very distinctive "moat" shape around it. 'Twas quite a thrill to visit here. The last two Chisholm sisters are buried here. Erchless Castle went out of Chisholm hands at their death. However, we learned on visiting Erchless Castle, which is being extensively renovated, that the present owner is hoping to modernize it to live in but is planning on restoring the oldest part to its former elegance and perhaps open it to the public. We also had a short visit with Rita Gibson. She and her husband were "keepers" at Erchless Castle for years. Rita's husband has since died but she is still very active in the Clan activities.

Submitted by Catherine Chisum Hoorman
St. Louis, MO

"CIAD MILE FAILTE"

We welcome the following new members:

James R. Chisum, III, P.O. Box 36, Newport, PA 17074
Chrissie C. MacNeil, 240 Central Ave #311, Wayzata, MN 55391
John A. McNulty, Sr., Rt C Box 144, Evergreen, AL 36401
Reginald A. Hunter, 38 Pierremont Crescent, Darlington, England
Kenneth C. Avanzino, 183 Turtleback Rd., New Canaan, Ct 06840
Jessica Scalley, 2259 Kalakaua Ave., Honolulu, HI 97815
Allan H. Hohlt, 2013 N. Van Buren St., Wilmington, DE 19802

TIDBITS

The Australian Branch of Clan Chisholm Society held their Annual General Meeting and Gathering on April 13 - 14, 1991 at Ballarat, Victoria.

The 40th Annual General Meeting of the Clan Chisholm Society will be held on August 10, 1991 at The Royal Abbey Hotel, Edinburgh, Scotland.

We were saddened to learn of the death of Herbert Chisum of Fall City, NE on April 7, 1991. He was a past president of the Chisum Family Assoc and a strong and dedicated member of this family. Our sympathies to his family.

Eva Chisum of Lincoln, NE is recovering from surgery and doing well.

Adele and Loring DeMartini of Atherton, CA welcomed their first grandchild on April 25th, 1991 -- Paige Nicole Dugan -- and the proud parents are Charles and Maria Dugan. Great-grandparents are Elizabeth and Laurence Avanzino of Narragansett, RI.

Heather A. Chisholm, daughter of Larry and Judy Chisholm of Danvers, MA graduated in May from Boston College. She will be attending Palmer College of Chiropractic West, Santa Clara, CA starting in July 1991. Congratulations Heather!

Bill and Judy Chisholm of Georgetown, MA celebrated two graduations at a recent family gathering. Their son, Bill Jr. graduated from Dartmouth College in May and will be employed as an analyst for Paine Webber NYC. Their youngest, Tim, graduated from Brooks School in North Andover, MA and will attend Trinity College in the fall. Congratulations Bill and Tim!

The 1991 issue of the Clan Chisholm Journal has arrived and you should be receiving it along with this newsletter. Once again, it is full of interesting articles and will be enjoyed by all, I'm sure.

Jean Chism of Tompkinsville, KY has generously offered to share her afghan design for the Chisholm plaid with our membership. If you would like to obtain directions for crocheting this afghan, please send your request along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Jean Chism, Box 217, Tompkinsville, KY 42167 or to the editor, P.O. Box 1091, Keene, NH 03431. Thank you Jean for sharing this with us!

Several members have inquired about a book offer from Halbert's, Inc. entitled "The World Book of Chisholms". We do not recommend this book.

A brief update on special projects from the Parent Society:

The Castle Project was established to acquire a room at Erchless Castle where Clan Chisholm could display archives belonging to the Society. We had hoped that this would be donated and that the Society would look after it. Reluctantly, we have not been encouraged on these terms. We are hopeful that the fund will accumulate while we continue to seek a room/place at a future date rather than abandon the project.

A new History Book is still our goal. We have a great deal of information available to write a history but we have yet to find a person capable of doing the job. We are encouraged, however, by the Australian Branch and their recent publication and hope we can accomplish the same. Meanwhile, family trees are available through the efforts of Wilfrid Medlam. You will find information about them in the Clan Chisholm Journal.

QUERIES

Seeking all birth, death and marriage data on parents, grandparents and brothers of Benjamin Chism, born 3 Feb 1777, Virginia and wife Elizabeth Beckham, both died in Orange County, Indiana. Send to Dorothea Miskimans, 13420 Borden Ave, Sylmar, CA 91342-2111.

Seeking father and mother of Sara Chism. She married to James Page on Sept. 12, 1806, Warren Co., KY. She was the daughter of Absalom and Edith (?) Chisum. Absalom Chisum was b. 25 Dec 1760, Amelia Co., VA, son of John and Ellender (Guillotine) Chisum; d. 3 Feb 1843, Logan County, KY, 83 years of age with burial in the Shakertown Cemetery located in Logan County, KY. Send to Juanita W. Grisson, 3337 A Hamilton St., Fort Worth, TX 76107.



Wish to contact descendants of Alexander Chisholm (1780 - 1836) and his wife Jennet McPherson (1792 - 1882?) of Columbiana Co., OH. Also their sons Alex. Chisholm and wife Margery McBane (1832 - 1914) who lived in Rockbridge, Richland Co, WI and Wm. Chisholm of Albia, Marshall Co, IA. Also descendants of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Allen of Albia, IA. Also descendants of three sisters: Caroline, Eliza and Angeline Chisholm, born in Indian Territory, daughters of an Indian mother and a Mr. Chisholm, son of Alex. & Jennet. Write to James L. Woodrow, Scotch Settlement Genealogical Center, 18790 Fife Rd., Wellsville, OH 43968. (* This query is included as a courtesy to Mr. Woodrow, he is not a member of CCSA, however.)

DUES

Thank you to those of you who have paid your 1991 dues. Renewals seem to be on the slow side this year. We would like to encourage those of you who have not yet paid your dues to send them along. Dues remain the same -- \$8.00 per year.

CLAN T-SHIRTS

Many of our members have inquired about purchasing Clan Chisholm T-shirts. See the attached order form for details about ordering them.

In kinship,

Val

Mrs. Val Chisholm Perry
Editor



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SOUVENIRS MENTIONED
IN THESE PAGES**

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**This ad was taken from a
copy of Hugh J. Chisholm's
book "Chisholm's White Mtn.
Guide" ca. 1916.**