

THE BUCHANAN BANNER



VOLUME XI

SPRING 1986

NOS. 1&2



An Cìrean Ceann Cinnidh

CLAN BUCHANAN SOCIETY
IN AMERICA, Inc.





CLAN BUCHANAN SOCIETY IN AMERICA, Inc.

CREST BADGE: *A dexter hand couped at the wrist, holding up a chapeau tasseled with a rose gules, all within a laurel wreath, proper.*

MOTTO: *Clarior hinc honos (Brighter hence the honour).*

Gaelic Name: *Canonach.*

PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization is to foster and promote understanding and good fellowship among the descendants of Scots in America; to study, preserve and promote the culture, customs and traditions of the people of Scotland and the Isles, especially with regard to Clan Buchanan, to foster and promote the Society by initiating goals and objectives consistent with our heritage and desires of the membership.

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Class of 1987	Carleen Capps Forest Corner Apts., 2409 Noble Forest Dr., N.E., Norcross, GA 30092	
Class of 1986	F. Talmadge Buchanan, M.D. Box 3686, Bristol, TN 37620	
	Charles E. Ingram 1512 31st Street, Ensley, Birmingham, AL 35218	





GRANDFATHER MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES JULY 10 THROUGH JULY 13, 1986



Convener — Dr. Talmadge Buchanan, Box 3686, Bristol, TN 37620

The Clan Buchanan Society in America will again be headquartered at the High Country Inn, Highway 105, Boone, North Carolina 28607.

The Inn is holding a block of rooms for us. Ms. Tamara Smith has indicated that you should let them know if you have special requirements such as, ground floor rooms, adjoining rooms, etc., when you are making the reservations. Also you should make your reservations by 31 May 1986. After that everything will be on a first come first served basis. The telephone number for the High Country Inn is:

1-800-334-5605

OR

704-264-1000

Advise them that you are with the Buchanan Society when you call.

The room rate is \$50 double.

The Clan Society dinner will be held on Friday, July 11, 1986. The evening will begin with a Reception at 6 p.m. and Dinner at 7 p.m.

The Buffet dinner cost including tax and tip is \$10.00. Please make your reservation for the Dinner at the same time that you reserve your room.

Our annual business meeting will be held immediately following the dinner. Even if you do not stay at the High Country Inn, you must be sure to make reservations for the dinner.

Schedule of Events

Thursday — 10 July, 6-8 p.m. Picnic for Sponsoring Clans and Patrons. Barbeque picnic catered. Adults, \$7; Children under 12, \$4; or bring your own. MacRae Meadow.

8-9 p.m. Torchlight Opening Ceremony to invoke the spirit of the Scottish Clans. Free. Bring flashlight. MacRae Meadow.

Friday — 11 July, 6-7 p.m. Clan Society Reception and Dinner. \$10.00

7-8 p.m. Piping Concert. Tickets at door, \$2.00 Williams Gymnasium, Lees-MacRae College, Banner Elk.

8-10 p.m. Ceilidh (Scottish folk festival). Tickets at door. \$5 Adults; \$2 ages 6-12. Hayes Auditorium, Lees-MacRae College, Banner Elk.

9-1 a.m. Scottish Country Dance. Music by The Scottish Accent Band. Tickets at door, \$10 dancers; \$3 spectators. Williams Gymnasium, Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk.

Saturday — 12 July, 8:00 a.m. MacRae Meadows Open for Highland Games. Tickets at gate. \$8 Adults; \$4 Children.

9:00 a.m. Competition Begins; Highland dancing, piping and drumming.

9:30 a.m. Mountain Marathon Runners arrive from a 7 a.m. start at ASU Stadium, Boone.

10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremonies and Massed Bands.

10:30 a.m. Scottish Athletic Events Begin.

2:30 p.m. Sheep and Duck Heading by Border Collies.

7:30 p.m. Ceilidh, Hayes Auditorium. Lees-McRae College, Banner Elk.

9:00 p.m. Tartan Ball. Grandfather Golf Club.

Sunday — 13 July 9:00 a.m. MacRae Meadows Open for Highland Games.

Scottish Worship Service and Kirking 'O' The Tartan.

Parade of Tartans with Pipe Bands.

Scottish Fiddling Competition.

Sheep Heading by Border Collies.

Athletic Competitions begin.

Demonstration of Scottish Athletic Events.

Clan Tug of War.

Closing Ceremony.



Information Tent: will be located at the Pixie Motel in Linville, N.C. Open Saturday, 5 July, through Sunday, 13 July, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Advance ticket sales and programs are available.

Shuttle Bus Service: Buses leave and return continuously an hour before the Games start and ending an hour after their conclusion on both Saturday and Sunday. Pickup and drop-off points are in Linville at the parking area on N.C. 105 across from the riding stable and at the Games Entrance. Cost is \$1 per person round trip.

Tartan Ball: If you wish to receive an invitation to the Tartan Ball where a special program of entertainment is planned contact:

Martha B. Chase
Grandfather Mtn. Highland Games
Box 1676
Johnson City, TN 37605
Phone No. (615) 928-2191

ROSEBORO ROAD — We urge all Clan and Society members to use the Roseboro Road to the Meadow. This will avoid the usual congestion in Linville. This paved road is off of US 221 (runs in front of the Linville Golf Club entrance and driving range), follow it to the end, turn left on the Blue Ridge Parkway to US 221, follow signs toward Grandfather Mountain entrance and MacRae Meadow.

It is a North Carolina Law that cars parked on the side of a highway cannot touch the pavement. Please notify your members of this since in previous years the Highway Patrol had a number of cars towed away.

SEAT BELT LAW — North Carolina has recently passed a new law requiring the use of seat belts for front seat passengers at all times. So **BELT UP FOR SAFETY.**



COUNCIL OF SCOTTISH CLAN ASSOCIATIONS, INC. 1986 SUMMER WORKSHOPS

The Council of Scottish Clan Associations, Inc. will sponsor five workshops during the week prior to the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, July 7-10, 1986. The workshops have been designed to offer all participants maximum exposure to course content and still leave time for sight-seeing, relaxing, or studying course material.

Course selection includes:

1) **BEGINNING GAELIC:** Monday, July 7 - Thursday, July 10, 1986.

This course, taught by Dr. Phil Smith, will focus on Gaelic vocabulary and fundamental grammar.

2) **ADVANCED GAELIC:** Monday, July 7 - Thursday, July 10, 1986

Mrs. Catriona Parsons, a native Gaelic speaker, will be the instructor for this workshop which will include increasing vocabulary and conversational facility with reinforcement of understanding idiomatic usages.

3) **SCOTTISH HISTORY — THE SCOTTISH PEOPLE:** Wednesday, July 9 - Thursday, July 10, 1986.

Dr. Renny McLeod will provide an historical survey of the Celts, Vikings, Picts, Normans, and Anglo-Saxons who combined to make up the people known as the "Scots." He will also discuss the origins, culture, and impact of these groups: the families descended from each and their place in the evolution and development of Scotland.

4) **NEWSLETTERS & JOURNALS FOR SMALL SOCIETIES:** Dr. Don Bond, Editor of the *Scottish-American*, will lead this 4-hour short-course which will deal with the gathering of material, writing, lay-out, production, and mailing of newsletters for the clan, family, and other Scottish societies. Thursday, July 10, 1986. 1-5 p.m.

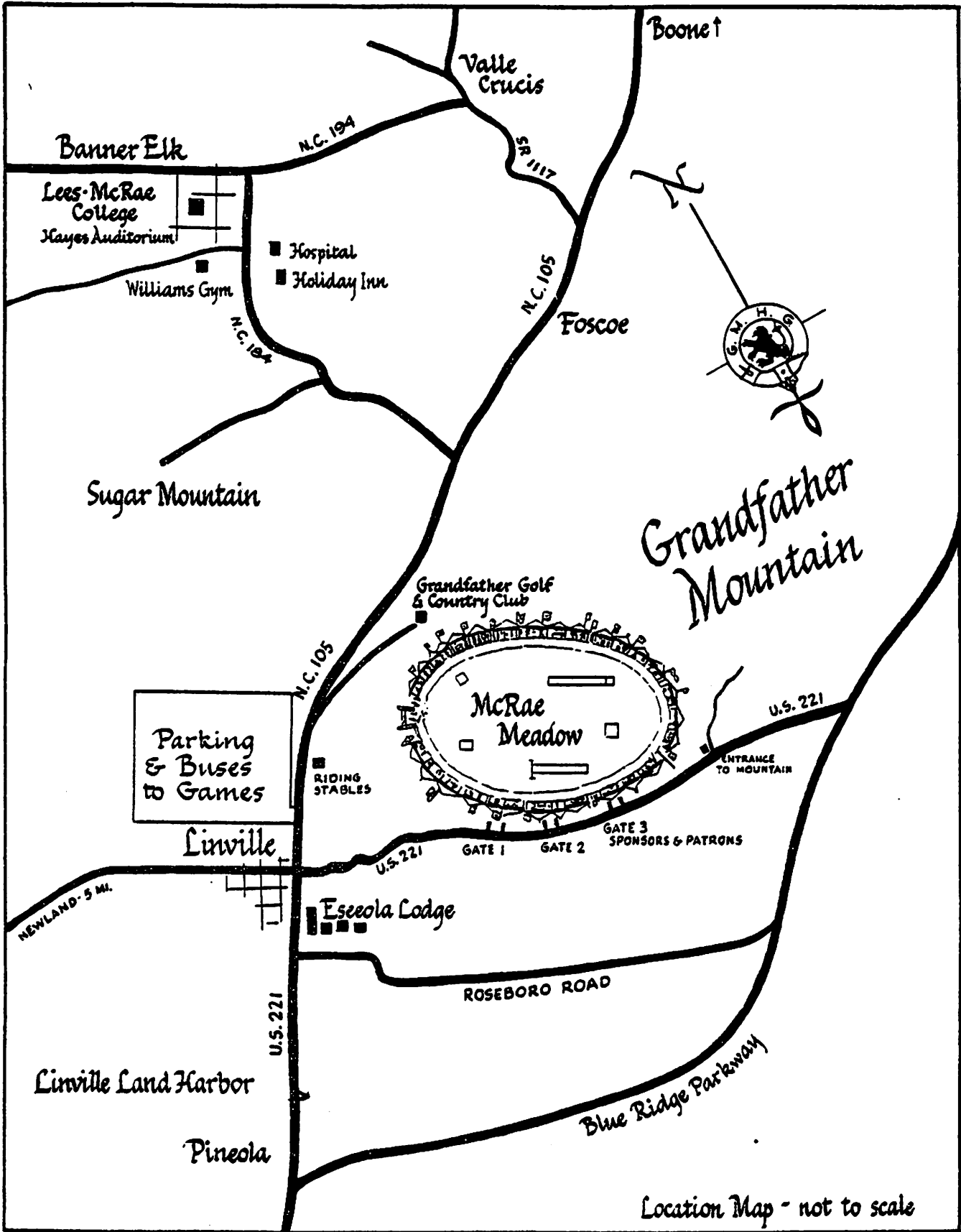
5) **FUND RAISING & FOUNDATION MANAGEMENT:** Dr. Don Bond will also lead this short-course. It will provide an approach to the establishment, funding, and potential tax-exempt foundations in connection with small societies and organizations. Wednesday, July 9, 1986. 1-5 p.m.

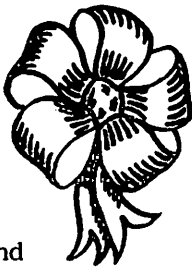
The cost of the workshop includes instruction and a courtesy renewal/membership in the Council. Room and board is available at Lees McRae College, where the workshops will be held.

Space in the workshops is limited, so those interested are encouraged to contact the Council Secretary as soon as possible, at the following address:

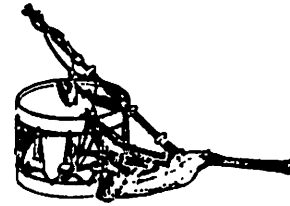
Virginia A. Hinton, Secretary
#711 Chateau Apts.
Carrboro, NC 27510







ENGLISH AND SCOTTISH FORCES COLLIDE AT CULLODEN



Inverness, Scotland

April 15th, a force of approximately 10,000 English troops under the leadership of the Duke of Cumberland, arrived by sea at Aberdeen this morning. Though our source could not tell of the Duke's destination, he did report that this force is fully equipped (many pieces of artillery), well-trained and experienced. With the infantry is also a large contention of experienced calvary.

April 16th a.m., our source in Aberdeen sends word that after a forced march, the Duke of Cumberland's forces have arrived at Drumassie Moor.

April 16th a.m., the day is bitterly cold and wet.

April 16th noon, our source had discovered Cumberland's intention.

On the western side of Drumassie Moor stands an ill-equipped army (approximately 5,000) of Highlanders under the leadership of Charles Edward Stuart, rightful heir to the Scottish throne.

Charles landed by French ship on 19th August of last year. Charles, the grandson of James the VII, is fighting to regain his rightful throne. The standard has been raised and men from the glens began a daring venture by any measure. The force pushed south taking Edinburgh with little opposition. On 21st of September, Charles' men defeated the government forces at Prestonpans. The march continued unopposed and by early December, had reached Derby, only 127 miles from London, a long way from the distant glens of Argyll where it all began. Unfortunately for Charles, the long march had taken its toll on the clansmen, and the swelling of the ranks which he had hoped for has failed to materialize.

After a four month march, our men, hungry and exhausted, have arrived at the moor by Culloden House. Not having reached Inverness, many of the men are also demoralized.

April 16th 1:00 p.m., our highlanders are separated from the English by approximately 600 yards of boggy open ground. Our source states this is no place to sustain a charge against well-trained muskets and artillery.

FLASH, April 16th, shortly after 1:00 p.m., our Jacobite canon opens fire on Cumberland's forces. Cumberland answered with far superior numbers of artillery and quickly quelled the Highlander's guns. Cumberland is now sweeping our lines with grapeshot — the effect is devastating. Charles' men are falling all around him. He is holding his men in the hope that Cumberland will order his troops to charge the Scottish lines, but it is this writer's fears that the experienced General is pleased with the effect his guns are having on our clansmen who are unable to retaliate.

Charles now has no other choice but to order an advance on the English front. I fear heavy losses.

April 16th, 1:30 p.m., the order has been given for the Highlanders to move forward — Hurrah, we have punched a massive hole in the English front line.

April 16th, 1:45 p.m., the hand-to-hand fighting is so close that our forces can hardly use their firearms and at close quarters our men are running straight into the fire of Cumberland's second line. Cumberland's experience and larger number of troops appear to be dominating our gallant clansmen, apparently the undaunted bravery of our men is not going to win the day. Long bayonets are murderously piercing the unprotected highlander's flesh beneath their raised claymores. This reporter has never seen such fighting or carnage.

April 16th, 2:00 p.m., the withdrawal has been swift. By 2:00, less than an hour after the initial artillery barrage, the battle is over. *The defeat is total.*

A grim depression has settled over our beloved highlands. By order of the Duke of Cumberland's younger son of King George II, arms, tartans and even bagpipers are outlawed forevermore.

Several thousand highlanders perished today, April 16, 1746, at a place forevermore simply called CULLODEN.

ED. NOTE: This was the last major battle on British soil in some cases it pitted Scot against Scot and even family against family. It ended once and for all the sixty year struggle of the House of Stuart to regain the British throne, and marked the beginning of Bonnie Prince Charles "flight through the heather."

Prince Charles died in desolute obscurity in Rome, the city of his birth never returning to "Bonnie Scotland."

It has been 240 years since the Battle of Culloden, but the spirit of our brave clansmen will live in the hearts of Scotsmen as long as heather blooms in the glen!



THE DIG ON THE RIVER DEE

Prolonged draught parched the countryside of northeastern Scotland the summer of 1976. While this dry weather made things difficult for the sheep and dairy farmers the conditions were ideal for the archaeologists of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland. The dry weather was ideal for the observation of "crop marks," telltale outlines on the ground which were indications of the buried remains of ancient buildings. The scientists who flew over this territory made notice of over 650 crop marks which were of potential archaeological interest.

One of the more promising sites, a rectangular patch along the River Dee has been a source of a discovery which has given cause for scientists to rethink some of the prevailing ideas about the origin of civilization in Scotland. This dig, which is located in Kincardineshire, west of Aberdeen, has revealed the remains of what may prove to be the oldest structure ever found in Great Britain. It is a late Stone Age building which could be equated to the chieftains hall in the epic Beowulf, that dates back over 6000 years.

Radiocarbon dating of the wood in the structural remains indicates that the timber was felled as long ago as 4000 B.C. Pottery shards found in one of the post holes are characteristics of that era. These data lead to the conclusion that the hall was built at least 1000 years before Stonehenge. It is also evident that it is several centuries older than a building in County Tyrone, Northern Ireland which has until now been considered the most ancient building in the British Isles.

The building was 78 ft. long, 39 ft. wide and the peak of the roof rose 30 ft. above the ground. It also utilized some distinctive architectural features such as bowed end walls, a style usually associated with structures of a much later time in history (500-1000 A.D.). Just as remarkable were the barley grains which were excavated. This indicates that the stone age people were skilled agriculturists and may have even domesticated farm animals.

All of these findings run counter to previous ideas regarding the development of civilization in Scotland; that it moved very slowly from the south. Contrary-wise this dig suggests that the Ancient Scots were well ahead of the "English" — an appealing thought to the wearer of the kilt and plaid — but also that this society was just as accomplished as those of the Middle East where it is held that the first glimmerings of civilization appeared. Indeed, at a time when these old Scots were supposed to be fumbling with the rudiments of agriculture, they were probably far ahead of many of their Stone Age contemporaries.



THE FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

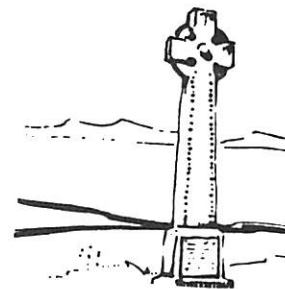
The Flowers of the Forest is the recognized Scots lament for the battle of Flodden and for many years in the late eighteenth century was accepted as a genuine song of the period. It was published anonymously and aroused considerable interest and speculation, being widely accepted as an old song rediscovered. James Hogg was convinced that it was not a genuine sixteenth century piece, but it was Sir Walter Scott who finally discovered the authoress. It was in fact written in the mid-eighteenth century by Miss Jane Elliot, daughter of Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto, Lord Chief Justice Clerk of Scotland.

Miss Jane Elliot was born in 1727 and died at Mount Teviot in Roxburgh in 1807. The story goes that her father made a wager with her that she could not write any verses on the theme of Flodden. Although her lament is based in part on an even earlier song entitled "The Flowers of the Forest," written by Mrs. Patrick Cockburn of Ormiston, Miss Elliot's verses are a far finer piece of poetry. As a lament they are inspired and the song is a masterpiece of sorrow. Played on the pipes it wrenches the heartstrings. It has stood the test of time and deserves its place in any Scots Collection.



THE FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

from *Songs of Scotland*



I've heard them lilt - in' at the ewe milk - in'
 Lass-es a-lilt - in' be - fore dawn of day. Now there's a moan-in' on
 Il - ka Green loan - in', The floo'ers o' the for - est are a' wede a - way.

I've heard the liltin' at our ewe-milkin',
 Lasses a-liltin' before dawn o' day;
 Now there's a moanin' on ilka green loanin',* *milking park
 The flowers of the forest are a' wede away.

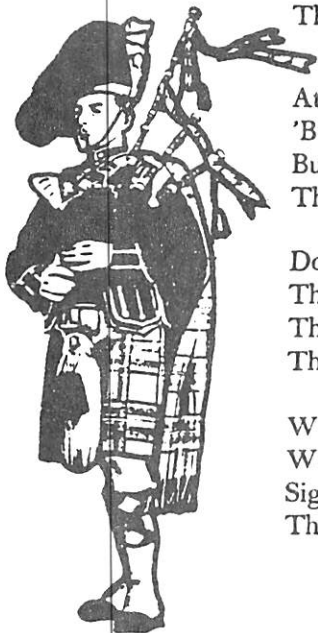
At buchts* in the mornin', nae blythe lads are scornin', *sheep-pen
 Lasses are lanely, and dowie,* and wae; *sad
 Nae daffin',* nae gabbin', but sighin' and sabbin', *dallying
 Ilk ane lifts her leglin and hies her away.

In har'st at the shearin', nae youths now are jeerin',
 The bandsters* are runkled, and lyart,** and gray; *binders of sheaves
 At fair or at preachin', nae woin', nae fleechin',* **grey streaked
 The flowers of the forest are a' wede away. *flatter

At e'en, in the gloamin', nae swankies* are roamin' *gallants
 'Bout stacks, 'mang the lassies at bogle* to play; *hide and seek
 But each ane sits dreary, lamentin' her dearie,
 The flowers of the forest are a' wede away.

Dool* and wae for the order sent our lads to the border, *grief
 The English for ance by guile wan the day;
 The flowers of the forest, that fought aye the foremost,
 The prime o' our land now lie cauld in the clay.

We'll hear nae mair liltin' at our ewe-milkin',
 Women and bairns are dowie and wae;
 Sighin' and moanin' on ilka green loanin',
 The flowers of the forest are a' wede away.



CLAN news



Buchanan Castle Golf Club House contains part of the ancient remains of the Place of Buchanan.

THE CONVENER REPORTS . . . WE ALL SAY HIP-HIP HOORAY . . . the Buchanans really worked hard this summer and fall. The Officers and Membership say THANK YOU . . .

THE OHIO SCOTTISH GAMES — were held at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio on Saturday, June 22nd. Many thanks to Karen Wolfe, without whose help our tent would have been a total disaster. We had a near tornado which tore apart all the tent areas and even ripped some of the canvas tents. At the ceilidh on Friday night, I was delighted to find one of our faithful helpers, Laurence Gilbert, singing a solo. He has a fine voice and his presentation was well received. Jim Buchanan, another faithful Ohioan, showed us a large volume he is compiling of Buchanans in Ohio. He has spent many hours in research. We hope to see more Buchanans at the Ohio Scottish games next year. The Games are relatively young . . . but growing fast.

THE LIGONIER HIGHLAND GAMES — were held at Idlewild Park, Pennsylvania on Saturday, September 7th. We found that "Bartholomew's Clan Map" attributed 10 names to Clan Buchanan which we did not have on our list of septs. Please Mr. Young-Genealogist, do let me know your opinion as to their authenticity. The day was very hot, but made bearable by the many shade trees.

The ten names on Bartholomew's Clan Map — Kincaid, MacColman, Maclea, Macleay, McCandeor, MacGrensich, MacRob, MacAston, Maclay, Masterton, Murphy.

Helen Mae Maffett
95 Gallo Road, N.W., Carrollton, Ohio 44615

HIGHLAND GAMES IN NEW YORK

A WEE SMA' GATHERING — August 17, 1985 was a wonderful day for New York State Buchanans. This gathering was held at John Boyd Thatcher Park (not far from where the Capitol District Games are held). The weather was perfect. The group was about 25 and most congenial. We had a Piper play for us and a delicious picnic lunch provided by Jim Hansett. The next gathering is planned for May 17, 1986 at Glimmerglass. Any and all Buchanans — family and friends are welcome to join us. Details will be sent out in Spring . . . or contact me.

30th Annual CAPITAL DISTRICT GAMES — August 30th dawned cold and damp, but we set up our tents. Gay French and I worked together for a very profitable day. We welcomed two new sponsors: Mary Ceely and Roberta Schmalling; Evelyn Barrett, her children Harold, Deborah, and Michael; Andrew and Kathryn Cormack with son Richard; Christine Beard. Thomas and Isabelle Engles and Linda Kaliski renewed their memberships . . . WELCOME ALL! Our special guest was Mrs. Beryl Graves, the New England Convener. Our banner was carried by Jim Hansett. Theo Masterson volunteered to be a Convener for next year. This puts New York State in an excellent position with workers.

Mrs. Richard D. Andrews
Meadows Tr. Park Lot S 16, Kirkwood, NY 13795
607-775-2754
Co-Convener Gay French
918 Peru Road, Groton, NY 13073

THE SCOTTISH FESTIVAL — QUEECHEE, VT. — August 24th . . . Foggy and cloudy, with a tent well staffed: Bob and Joan Smith, Susan Parsons and Treyvon, Jim Hansett. Jim Hansett carried the Buchanan Banner in the Parade of Tartans, our experienced friend and Convener from New York — Jo Andrews helped with inquiries. A warm welcome is extended to new members Mr. and Mrs. Scott Buchanan Canfield; Mr. and Mrs. Dan Buchanan Sewall, Mr. Robert S. Buchanan; Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Yuille Knipes; Dr. and Mrs. Terry MacWhirter Grissom.

The 10th ANNUAL NEW HAMPSHIRE HIGHLANDS GAMES — September 14-15 at Loon Mountain, N.H. The weather was sunny but very windy and cold. Present at the clan tent were Bob and Joan Smith, Susan Parsons and Jim Honsett. We "made friends and influenced people" by dispensing coffee, tea, and goodies, to visiting Clan Buchanan members and prospects. An informal Ceilidh was held at the Drummer Boy Inn following the day's activities, co-hosted by the Larry MacFarlane's and myself . . . many members and friends joined in. New members who joined the Society are: Robert F. Kostuck (a great-great nephew of James Buchanan, former President of USA); Gail G. Watson Nozik; Elizabeth Weir Ruf and William Ruf. My profound and heartfelt thanks to all the people who were Conveners at the various games in New England this year and helped us at the Clan Buchanan Tents and Gatherings . . . See you next year . . . yours aye . . .

Beryl Graves
P.O. Box 1600
Green Island, New York 12183

DUNEDIN FESTIVAL AND GAMES — On one Sunday of each month Dunedin, Fla. has a "Highland Day", complete with Pipe Bands, picnic area, etc., at Highland Park. Write to Dunedin Games for details.

Carla Maria Mesterton, (address: 1221 Minnesota, Apt. D, Orlando, Fla. 32803) is a co-convenor for Central Florida Games, and also your contact for these Games. Let Carla know you are a Buchanan. She needs to know who you are and where you are located in Central Florida. What are your ideas toward bringing the Society closer together in that area.

THE FIRST SCOTTISH FESTIVAL AT AMHERST MUSEUM — September 21st . . . cool, cloudy, windy but they held the sheep dog herding exhibitions, caber toss, Scottish country dancing etc. Duke of Argyll Regiment exhibition and band music by Gordon Highlanders and Cosmopolitan Pipe Band. An informal Ceilidh was held later in the afternoon. About 3,500 people attended. Five Clan Tents . . . the Buchanans were first in line and had a good day. At 10 a.m. we had 1 Clan membership from New York's Niagara Frontier. By 5:30 p.m. we had increased our membership 500% and handed out many applications. There are sure to be more of these Festivals and the Buchanans will certainly be there, and continue to grow in members and enthusiasm.

This is the end of the Games Year . . . for us, but now it's planning time and we already have dates set for next year. Remember the Buchanan Outing for all N.Y. members on May 17, 1986 at Glimmerglass State Park, just north of Cooperstown, N.Y.

yours aye . . . Gay French
918 Peru Rd., Groton, N.Y. 13073

THE CALEDONIAN SOCIETY OF ALABAMA — September 27th along with the Saint Andrew's Society of Montgomery co-hosted the first Scottish Festival at Fort Toulouse just outside of Montgomery, Alabama. Clan Buchanan had a tent at this event with Bill Hard and Charles Ingram acting as co-conveners. We had several people stop by and visit with us and Jeannie Cataldo of Birmingham, joined our society. Jeannie's mother was born in Scotland. The day was beautiful with a stiff breeze that kept the Clan Banners waving. The last competition of the day was the "Battle Ax" throwing which was won by Charles Ingram of Clan Buchanan! The Parade of Tartans ended the day. Marching in the Buchanan Group were: Charles Ingram, Chad Cooper, Bill Hard, Jeannie Cataldo, Ivonne Sellers, Jeannie's brother Eddie Shores. Saturday evening a Scottish Ceilidh was held on the Riverboat . . . with a grrrrrand two hour cruise down the Alabama River.

Sincerely . . .
Charles E. Ingram
1512 31st St. Ensley, Birmingham, Alabama 35218

Congratulations to Beryl Graves — her daughter in the Navy was recently promoted to a 1st Class Petty Officer, which is a great honor as only 5% of the Women in the Navy were promoted . . . fleet wide. She was a participant in the Parade of Tartans, in full Highland Dress, (military) with the Navy Contingent at the Big Games in California. She is now stationed in Guam and has started a Burns Club in Guam to honor her Father who was a Burns scholar.

Mr. Donald Watson, 140 2nd St., Hollowell, Maine is a dealer in Scottish Antiques . . . and has an extensive collection of Old Scottish Histories and Travel Books and rare old Scottish Sheet Music.

Hannah Stirling, Auchendarroch, Tarbet by Arrochar, Scotland: President of Friends of Loch Lomond writes that she is still getting lovely Thank You Notes for the great day of last June 20, 1985, and the Buchanan Cruise on Loch Lomond, her picnic at Inversnaid on the Countess Fiona, and big dinner at Lomond Castle Hotel and Ceilidh with 45 entertainers.

Sample:

"What a joy to touch and be touched by you and your Buchanan Cohorts! The boat trip on Loch Lomond was a fairy tale come true, and the evenings fine Ceilidh and dinner at the Lomond Castle was sheer delight. I look forward to more meetings! It was a great joy . . . signed

Dorothy Youell

You have helped us to find and share our common traditions. If we pause, close our eyes and reach back into the mist of time . . . the songs of our past ring clear. Thank you so much for your dedicated efforts and great hospitality . . . signed

John L. Youell

Hannah — you are a very special lady . . . Thanks for Everything . . . signed

Ken Youell

A University Research party was engaged in compiling information regarding living conditions and kindred topics affecting the smaller islands in the Hebrides. One day they sighted a small island which promised to be a suitable place to pursue their inquiries.

Helped ashore by a lone figure on the rough jetty, they lost no time in commencing their questions.

"And how many people actually live here?" they began.

"Well, noo," replied the islander, "there's me, and the wife, and the wife's sister — jost the three of us."

The visitors showed a marked interest.

"And now," they went on, "what kind of place is this to live in?"

"Oh!" came the swift reply, "a terrible place for scandal!"

REMEMBER — Buchanan members . . . we welcome any of your news dealing with Scottish trips or Scottish events in the U.S.A. . . . Scottish jokes . . . Do contribute . . . We can have The Clachan News.



THE FAIRY FLAG OF THE MACLEODS

Still on display at Dunvegan Castle, the *Bratach sith* is of eastern Mediterranean silken fabric, more than a thousand years old. The Macleods believe it was given to them by the Fairies, but it seems more likely that it is the famous sacred "Land-Ravager" flag that King Harald Haardrade of Norway brought back from Constantinople, and which he is known to have left behind with the ships in which a Macleod ancestor, Godred Crovan, escaped after their defeat at Stamford Bridge by King Harold of England in 1066. Later the same year, Harold was defeated by William the Conqueror.

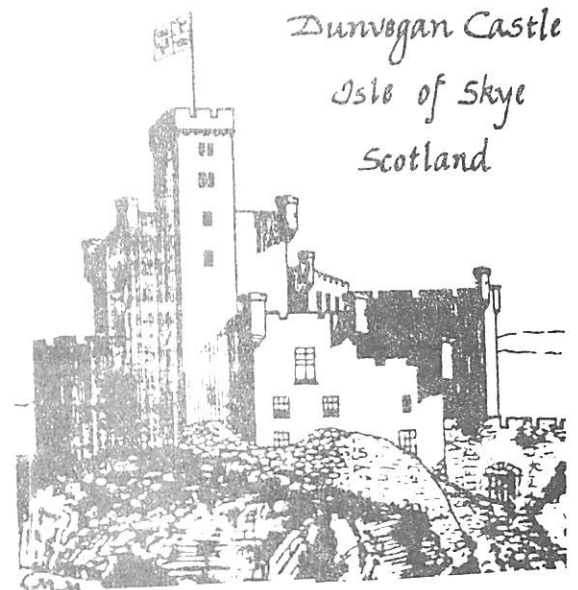
From the 1932 edition of *In Search of Scotland* By H. V. Morton, we learn that

"There was also a tradition, which is believed in to this day, that if the flag was waved for some trivial reason a dreadful curse would fall on the Macleods; the heir would die; the 'Three Maidens' (the rocks at Dunvegan) would be sold to a Campbell; and when a fox had young in a turret of the castle the glory of the Macleods would depart, much of the estate would be sold, and in time there would not be sufficient Macleods left to row a boat over the loch."

" . . . in the year 1799 Macleod's factor, a man named Buchanan, decided to test the curse. He employed an English blacksmith in the village to force open the iron box in which the Fairy Flag was kept, and he waved it and put it back again. It may have been coincidence, but in a short time the heir was blown up in H.M.S. *Charlotte*; the Maidens were sold to Angus Campbell of Esnay; a tame fox in the possession of a Lieutenant Maclean, then staying in the castle, had young in the west turret, and the Macleod fortunes began to decline. The present chief [Sir Reginald] and his father re-established them, but today there are only three Macleods left, not enough to row a four-oared boat over Loch Dunvegan . . .

"It may be all a coincidence, but — it's strange, isn't it?"

A further note: In 1938, when a wing of Dunvegan Castle was on fire, the flames checked and ceased their destruction at the very moment that the Fairy Flag was carried past on its way to safety.



**THE CLAN BUCHANAN GATHERING CEILIDH
LOMOND CASTLE HOTEL
JUNE 1985
THE CLAN GATHERING CEILIDH**

By the Banks of Loch Lomond in the middle of June,
Our Clansmen all gathered around
To welcome our guests from "Way out West".
and enjoy the Ceilidh sound

The skirl of the Pipes and the lift of the song;
and the dancers so light on their feet.
The drams and the stories all flowed along
How pleasant it was to meet!

Buchanans, MacDonalds and a Campbell or two!
MacPherson, MacKay and MacPail.
Swapping stories, not swords, as their forefathers did!
For this was the night of the Gael.

All too soon the time came when our friends had to leave;
but they'll take with them memories to store
May the music and song stay with them for years
from the CEILIDH DOWN BY THE LOCH SHORE.



by Betty Campbell
16 Adelaide St.
Helensburgh
Dunbartonshire, Scotland

Dear Jean:

I am glad you enjoyed the MacAlister Reading ... enclosed are the words you requested. Also I am enclosing a wee poem written in the memory of that night of June 20th. I did so enjoy meeting you all! Those nights where one makes new friends and meets up with old ones really make life worth while. I do hope you all enjoyed your stay in Scotland, although the weather was not too kind (it is even worse now) and remember us when you have your own Ceilidhs in America.

Haste ye back!
Yours sincerely ... signed
Betty Campbell

Ba, wee birdie, birdie	
Ba, wee birdie, croon;	
The ewes are awa to the siller parks,	sheep silver fields
The kye's amang the broom;	cows
The wee bits o'yowes to the heathery knowes,	ewes; small hills
They'll no be back til noon;	
If they dinna get something ere they gang out,	
Their wee pipes will be toom.	throats; empty



THE SCOTTISH SHEEP DOG

— Jean Hunt - Editor

As anyone who has visited the Highlands of Scotland will attest, they are indeed vast open spaces where sheep roam freely as far as the eye can see. Since the introduction of sheep as the principal crop of the Highlands, the shepherd has depended upon his faithful sheep dog to assist him in managing his flock.

There are over 70 different types of sheep and cattle herding dogs and more than half of these are found in Europe alone. Britain itself has nine pedigree herding breeds, seven of them recognized by the Kennel Club. The Border and Welsh Collies, although unrecognized by them, have stud books which are zealously guarded by the International Sheep Dog Society. Australia, South America, Africa and the Middle East all have their own type of herding dogs, but surprisingly, North America does not have an indigenous breed.

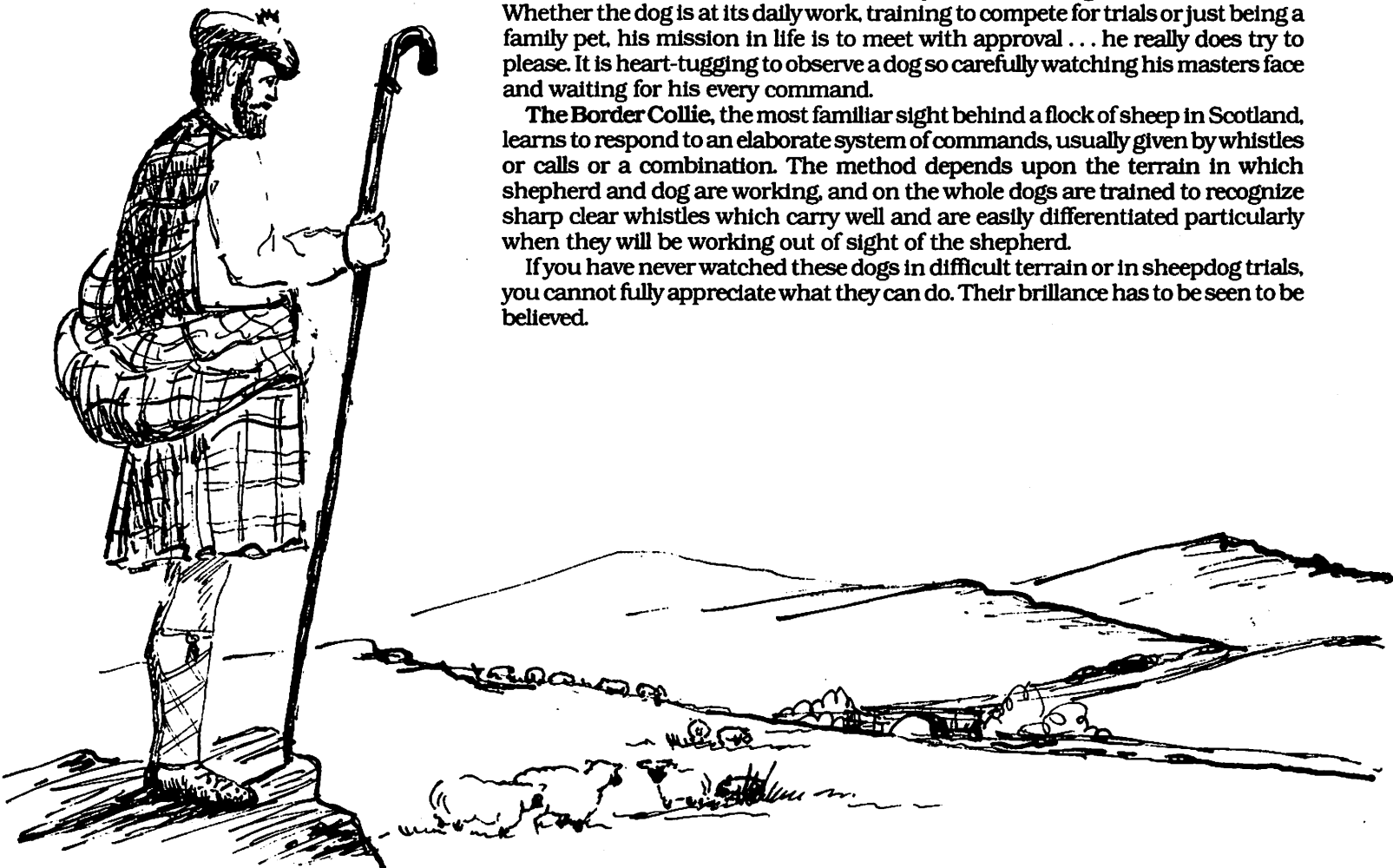
Sheepdogs, world wide vary enormously in type, each being adapted to suit the kind of work expected of it and the type of terrain on which it has to perform. In most cases sheep and herding dogs fill a treble role — they act as guard to the homestead and the family, they help their master tend the flock or herd, and in some parts of the world, even today, they ward off wolves and other large predators. The majority of the herding breeds are very sweet tempered, reliable and trustworthy towards their owners and the family, but at the same time will protect the flock, home and family to the death if necessary.

The character of the true sheepdog, makes him quite exceptional. They are highly, intelligent sensible and sensitive, as well as having the desire to please. Their brains seem to function and reason in almost the same way as our own. Sheepdogs are strongly telepathic, much more so than other breeds. They have a strong sense of possession and a great sense of right and wrong. They sense the masters moods and have an uncanny understanding of them.

Whether the dog is at its daily work, training to compete for trials or just being a family pet, his mission in life is to meet with approval . . . he really does try to please. It is heart-tugging to observe a dog so carefully watching his masters face and waiting for his every command.

The Border Collie, the most familiar sight behind a flock of sheep in Scotland, learns to respond to an elaborate system of commands, usually given by whistles or calls or a combination. The method depends upon the terrain in which shepherd and dog are working, and on the whole dogs are trained to recognize sharp clear whistles which carry well and are easily differentiated particularly when they will be working out of sight of the shepherd.

If you have never watched these dogs in difficult terrain or in sheepdog trials, you cannot fully appreciate what they can do. Their brilliance has to be seen to be believed.



The dogs are not trained by rote . . . they respond to their master's commands yet use their own brains too. In mountainous country the dog is often out of sight of his master. He must use his own intelligence, not just instinct, and solve many difficult problems by himself.

Sheepdogs must be trained, but each must also have a tremendous amount of inherited ability and they are often trained as much by their parents as their masters. Natural selection has played a major part over the centuries, the old law of the survival of the fittest — the most intelligent and at times even the craftiest. A man with a clever dog can handle with utmost efficiency large flocks. No machine can supercede a sheep dog.

The first Sheepdog Trials in Britain were held in October 1873 in Wales and continued annually, with increases each year both in attendance and the number of competitors. In 1876 the first trials were held in England, and Scotland followed suit the same year. Six years after the first trials Queen Victoria witnessed a private trial at Bala and this led to the Bala Trials becoming the most important of the annual competitions. Interest in the trials continued until the First World War, when there was a break, but after this they picked up again and spread throughout Britain and also became increasingly popular in all the English speaking countries. Trials throughout the world are now held under the rules of the International Sheepdog Society, as they are in Britain.

The Border Collie is the most common working sheepdog breed but it is not recognized by the English Kennel Club. In Australia and New Zealand, it has been recognized by the National Kennel Clubs. A young sheepdog has such a strong herding instinct that even as a puppy it will attempt to herd although completely untrained. Scottish Border and Welsh Collies should never really be kept solely as pets. They will be unhappy if left to their own devices with no jobs to perform. If he is deprived of his natural work ... his fertile mind will go to seed and he will become very sad ... perhaps even untrustworthy. An intelligent dog who is bored is often a naughty dog.

Saturday, 15th June 1985 I attended the Kinlochard Sheepdog Society Trials at Ledard Farm, Kinlochard (near Aberfoyle). They started at 7:30 a.m. The Chairman was D. McLaughlin, Ballabeg Farm. The sheep were provided by Lower Clyde Water Board and the field by F. Wood, Esq. Ledard Farm. All competitors reported to the Secretary's tent on arrival and Trials run strictly to ballot. There were 58 entries. The prizes were for £30, £20, £15, £10, £8, £6, £5. Highest Shepherd £5. Lorna Mitchell, a lassie of eleven years, from Port of Mentieth, helped her father who drove the lorry that brought in the 191 sheep that were used in the trials.

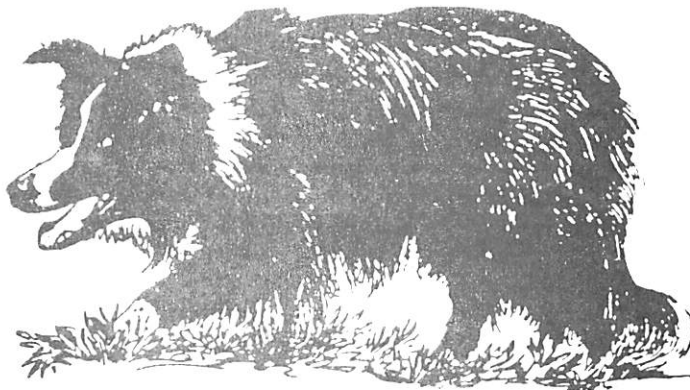
The setting was perfect — emerald green fields stretching down to sparkling Loch Ard with Ben Lomond to the right watching majestically. A tent was set up by the Altskeith Hotel for refreshments that were served throughout the day, sandwiches, Scottish meat pies, bridies and the usual beer and whiskies. The shepherds and local men were wearing their tweed suits and caps. Spectators parked their cars on one side of the field.

At one end of the field stood the shepherd and on the far, far side four sheep were released when the clerk dropped a white cloth. The Border Collie went right to work and brought them through the field, through two posts ... into a pen ... then out to "shed" them (separating one from the other three). The shepherd of course throughout the event was giving his whistles and calls, assisting the dog. Some dogs did outstanding work and went along very quietly, crouching, darting, moving — controlling the sheep with his eyes. It was a remarkable partnership — man-dog —controlling the sheep.

At the refreshment tent, I met the young lady who manages the Altskeith Hotel on Loch Ard, situated near the sheep dog trial field. She invited me to lunch and we walked to the Hotel to obtain a brochure. I told her that I would certainly tell my friends about this quaint and charming spot on Loch Ard with tables and umbrellas on its lawn that touched the lake and the private beach. Ben Lomond towers over the glen. The hotel has seven bedrooms, is centrally heated, with a lounge and public bar and also a residents lounge. Dinner is served by candlelight in the Dining Room and bar meals are also offered as an alternative. They advertise "Good food at reasonable prices and a fine selection of ales and malts." Weekends feature live music and a "ceilidh" which I enjoyed very much that evening with friends ... and enjoyed seeing the shepherds and locals celebrating after a long, throat drying day at the Trials! Hotel Altskeith has its own fishing boats that can be used for pleasure rowing. The Loch is well stocked with Trout. Salmon fishing is permitted further up the river. For recreation there is Hill walking, ranging from gentle strolls to the ascents of Ben Lomond, Ben Venue and Ben 'An. These walks, I noticed, were well sign-posted, the various trails marked with *different colors* and mileage noted ... these are maintained by the Forestry Commission. Pony-Trekking is available at nearby Ledard Farms. On Friday before the Trials I tried the two-hour journey — of walk-trot on well-kept horses. The bridle path took us through some beautiful woodlands and over a gorgeous, rocky wild mountain stream —tumbling down to the Loch below. The cost was £8 and about nine people were in the group. Golf is offered at the Aberfoyle Golf Club. Windsurfing School gives instruction on this exciting sport. Hotel Altskeith is in a lovely setting ... and just within ½ hr. drive to Doune Motor Museum and Doune Castle — or to Stirling Castle, or the Blair Drummond Safari Park or to Callander or Balquidder. 10 minutes along the way is lovely Inversnaid on Loch Lomond with its waterfall and Rob Roy's Cave. It is 45 minutes to Glasgow, 1 hour to Edinburgh. Nicely situated in the Trossachs.

The address is Kinlochard, Aberfoyle (by Stirling), Scotland. Phone Kinlochard 266.

"LIE DOON, MEG, LIE DOON"
(overheard at the Kinlochard Sheep Dog
trials —)



This Newsletter will keep you "in touch" with a whole new world of Sheepdog lovers... and lists the U.S. Trials... and the Canadian Trials. Also noted that the Wisconsin Working Stock Dog Association sponsored a clinic at the Howard Pipkorn Farm, Mequon, Wisconsin with the famous Scot JACK KNOX.

Trials are also held in Bedford, Pa., Klamath Falls, Or., Eden, Texas, Conyonville, Or., Grass Vally, Ca., Sacramento, Ca., Fredericksburg, Texas, Clifton, Texas, Beavercreek, Oregon, Williamsville, Virginia, Merced, Calif., State Fair of Virginia, Spokane, Washington, Portersville, Ga., Salado, Texas. "Scottish Heritage Trials" sponsored by the Texas Sheep Dog Association as part of the Big Gathering of Scots.



SMUGGLERS' TALES

Reprinted from the Pine Tree Highlander — St. Andrew's Society of Maine

The battle waged between moonshiners and excisemen was a long and arduous one, with the advantages swinging first one way and then the other, the cunning and the daring of the smugglers being pitted against the organization and determination of the law. Yet in spite of numerous violent and bloody incidents, each side developed a curious respect for the other. Popular mythology, of course, always favours the flouter of authority and most of the stories that have come down to us favour the smuggler.

One tells of the exciseman who was convinced that an acquaintance of his was smuggling whisky past him but could not discover how. He accused the man of smuggling and the man freely admitted the crime, and moreover, offered him a challenge by saying that he would transport a barrel of whisky along a certain road on a certain day.

One the appointed day the exciseman and his team carefully searched a succession of drays and carts loaded with hay, turnips, sheep and wool but could find nothing. Then came a funeral cortege but, just as this was passing, a cart loaded with oats made a sudden dash past the inspection point.

Convinced he had caught his prey, the officer chased after it, stopped it and went through it with a fine toothcomb. To his surprise there was nothing.

At the end of a long day he gave up. He knew no whisky had got through. He was angry at the deception practised on him and went to find the smuggler, whom he accused of breaking his word.

'I kept my word', said the smuggler. 'The whisky is in Inverness now. We brought the whisky along the north road between nine and five.'

'Have ye any witnesses?'



This illicit Scottish still would produce a dozen or so gallons of raw spirit for every charge. The precious worm is concealed inside the wooden tub.

In spite of continual raids and confiscation, illicit distillation continued for many years in the remoter parts of the Highlands.