

NABELICH

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CLAN BELL INTERNATIONAL
21st Year of Publication

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 4
OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2007



LONE BELL, Lawman, Meets Billy The Kid, Shootist

By Dennis Bell, Canada CBI Representative

Not our first account of a famous Bell lawman meeting his demise at the hands of a notorious killer, this New Mexico lawman known as "Lone Bell" served his people valiantly and was one of many citizens and law enforcers who encountered the infamous killer, William Bonney, and paid with his life.

The Old West knew him best as Lone Bell — and the way he died on April 28, 1881 in the wilds of New Mexico is much more familiar to historians and Western lore researchers than the way he lived.

Lone Bell was shot in the back in Lincoln County, New Mexico — a lawman killed in the line of duty during a jailbreak by the most notorious outlaw in history. Billy the Kid. He was the Kid's second-to-last victim — Billy himself was ambushed and shot to death by Sheriff Pat Garrett just three months later. Lone Bell's real name was James W. Bell, and he was a deputy sheriff specifically assigned by Garrett to guard William H. Bonney, a.k.a. Billy the Kid, as the latter awaited execution in Lincoln County scheduled for May 13, 1881. Also known simply as J.W., not much else has surfaced on the origins of Lone Bell. He was of medium height, a taciturn bachelor not given to idle chitchat, and sported a scarlet knife scar across his left cheek, from mouth to ear. Some say he was from Maryland, born there around 1842, but other

more reliable sources say James was from Georgia, born in 1853. His tombstone says 1853 was the year of his birth — a new grave marker, mounted back in 2003 to replace the original stolen by vandals decades ago.

James himself told a census taker in White Oaks, Lincoln County, back in 1880 that he was indeed a Georgian by birth, 27 years old at the time, with both parents born in Virginia. He may have been the James W. Bell born to Ira and Mary Bell in Houston County, Georgia, their second of six children. However, there was a James Webster Bell born in 1851 in Jackson County, Georgia to Ira and Mary Jane Bell, and several other James Bells born around Georgia in the same time period. The jury, as they say, is still out on Lone Bell's exact ancestry. What is known is that James W. Bell packed up and headed west in the years that followed the U.S.

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Left: The infamous William H. Bonney, more readily known by his, "Billy the Kid" moniker, took the life of Deputy Sheriff, James W. Bell while escaping from jail.

BELL'S BLOOD FOUND

This building is the Lincoln County Court House and Jail, which is still standing. Traces of Lone Bell's blood were found on the steps awhile back when they were tested in a CSI-type examination by experts. The building now serves as a museum.



Clan Bell International

Clan Bell International (CBI) is a charitable, non-profit organization of Scottish descendents and friends of Clan/Family Bell, organized to study Bell (in its various spellings) genealogy, Scottish history and culture, and to perpetuate family tradition, as it relates to our Scottish heritage.

No officer of CBI, whether elected or appointed, receives monetary compensation or other benefits, including tax benefits, in exchange for their services.

Annual dues for membership in CBI are payable at the time of joining, for new members; and on the anniversary month of membership for established members.

The Newsletter, NABELICH

"Na Belich" is Scots Gaelic for "The Bells"

NABELICH (Formerly, BELL-A-PEAL), the official newsletter of Clan Bell International, is published four times a year and is mailed free to members as one of several benefits of membership.

Contribution of articles or other information of interest to membership, including photographs, announcements and notices of birth, marriages or death, are welcomed and encouraged. To facilitate timely publication and delivery of the newsletter, members are requested to submit material for publication no later than March 15 for the First Quarter Issue; June 15 for the Second Quarter Issue; September 15 for the Third Quarter Issue; and December 15 for the Fourth Quarter Issue. All contributed information of value, including photographs, will be promptly returned at the request of the contributor. Contributions to the newsletter should be mailed to NABELICH,

1 Charleston, Ave, Unit 15,
Londonderry, NH 03053;
or email to: raybellprint@msn.com

Change of Address

When your address changes, please inform our Membership Chairperson promptly by US Mail or by email to: aginn@cox.net. When the USPS cannot deliver to your previous address because you have moved and have not advised the membership chairperson, CBI is charged for the returned, undeliverable, newsletter. The cost to CBI for a returned newsletter is \$1.48 plus 60 cents to re-mail the newsletter to the correct address.

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Flowers of the Forrest

F. ALLAN BELL, of Bowie, Maryland passed away on October 30, 2007. Allan and his wife, Elsie, have been members of CBI since August 2000.

WILLIAM GHERKY KILLHOUR, 82, of West Springfield, Massachusetts. William had been a CBI member since March 1993.

President's Message

Clan Bell International
WILLIAM H. BELL, PRESIDENT



Greetings to all members:

Even though this issue of our newsletter is post-holiday season, the Board wishes to take this opportunity to say that we hope you had a Blessed Christmas and we wish you a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Many changes occurred during this last calendar year. Basically CBI has new administrative and operating procedures to include a newly revamped Board of Officers and Appointees. Reconstruction of our CBI web site has begun to present a more positive vehicle for viewers. The web site is our "eye" for the world to "see" us and we are judged by how viewers rate it by their interest. Great progress is being made in the web site's reconstruction, but if all of you with computers would be so kind as to visit and review the site and then provide our Web Master with your rating of the changes it would be of great value. The Web Master has provided the means to rate the site which you will find on the right side of the initial web page. Please participate and give us your views.

I should like to personally thank the Board members for their attention to detail in handling current administrative problems and for their assistance in charting our future course, our Commissioners for Scottish Festivals for the time and effort they donate to put forth the message of the Bells, and, last but not least, our International Representatives for their loyalty to the clan and their efforts to find other Bells within their various countries and bring them into our Clan Family.

The problem of Clan Badges and jewelry offered for sale by Karissa Beals has been resolved. All are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain and wear authentic Clan jewelry. Please contact Karissa and place your orders. We must advise that when we have our Chief appointed, in all probability the jewelry design will be changed; however, that occurrence is definitely in the future. Even so, Karissa will still be the Clan jewelry purveyor.

Building on the success of the Salt Lake City Gathering last May, we will take under advisement the planning for the next Gathering. If any member desires to act as host and recommend a Gathering site, please contact our Vice President Ward "Bud" Ginn.

Please support our Games Commissioners and assist them in their efforts to bring the Clan Bell message to all Games attendees. Let's face it; they need a break from tent duty every so often, so please volunteer to act as an assistant tent host. You will make many new acquaintances and also learn more about Clan Bell as you will necessarily be required to answer questions from tent visitors. Hosting is most rewarding and you will be glad to have participated.

In closing, I quote one of my favorite Scottish sayings,
"May the mouse in your pantry never go hungry."

Bill

CEAD MILE FAILTE

"One hundred thousand welcomes!"

To our new members

October-December 2007

Anthony Eugene Bell	Halifax, Canada
Geoffrey Richard Bell	WA, Australia
John Winder Bell	Chesapeake, VA
Robert Blair Bell	Stanton, VA
Robert Eugene Bell	Bridgewater, Canada
Nancy & Keith Neuner*	Napa, CA
Robert Alexander Bell Phillips	Alberta, Canada
Jane Bell Roberts	Berryville, VA
Karen A. & Dale Runyan*	Monterey, CA

*2007 Loch Lomond Games, Ben Lomond, California

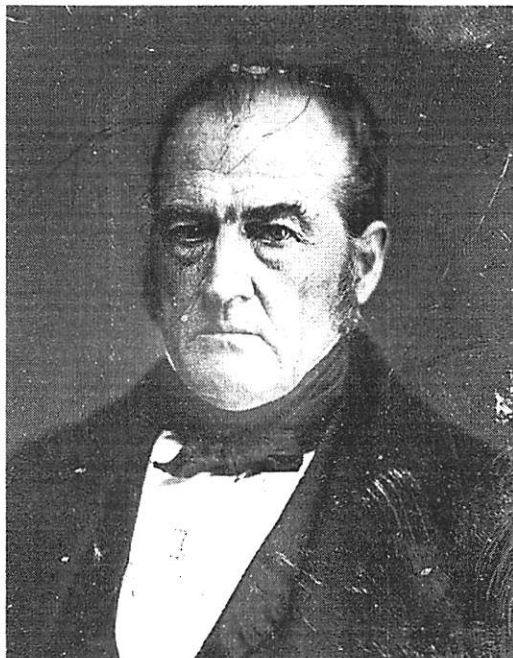
John Bell, John Bell, Everyone has a John Bell

by Carol Bell

Results of the JOHN BELL POLL

(From Vol 21-3 Issue)

CBI members from the United States and Canada responded enthusiastically to the *John Bell Poll* in the last issue of NABELICH. The number of John Bells in family trees ranged from two to five per response, with William Alan Bell of Alberta, Canada, having five in his family tree, the most found in this poll. Someone else in our organization found the subject of my original article, Senator John Bell of Tennessee, in her family tree. That was Alicia Frank of Florida. Her ggg grandmother was the senator's niece. Thanks to all the Bells that participated and thanks especially for the interesting comments. Everyone has a John Bell!



What Kind of BELL Are You, Anyway?

Another look at Clan Bell
vs Sept Bell of
Clan MacMillan

A special thanks to Bud Ginn for providing this information which originally appeared in our newsletter when it was previously named "Bell-a-Peal" and he was Editor.

Some readers may be tempted to buy into the theory that Bells of Highland ilk are merely descendants of Bells who in earlier generations had gone north to the highlands. Since Border Bells were known for their superior fighting skills, wouldn't it have made sense for the MacMillans to adopt Bells as a Sept of their clan. However, we cannot overlook the practice of some MacMillan Highlanders taking on Anglicized names when it was fashionable. DNA testing may one day give us answers. Read on.

Older tartan books, and many popular tourist books based on them, declare that the "Bells" are a Sept of Clan MacMillan. Some indeed are (as you will see), and are proudly welcomed into the Clan MacMillan Society of North America and its branches. However, there are several Bell families. Only one group bearing this surname is nicknamed MacMillans, and thus a properly named Sept of the Clan MacMillan.

The first tartan merchants were very eager to sell a tartan to anyone. As a result, long "Sept" lists were invented with little or no basis in fact. This was the fate of many Bells, who were sold MacMillan tartan and clan jewelry. In more recent years, an attractive and distinct Clan Bell tartan has been registered with the Scottish Tartans Society in Comrie, Perthshire. MacMillan Bells, however, may properly wear our Clan Bell tartan!

Clan Bell

A Parliamentary Act of 1587 lists the Bells as a distinct Lowland "Name" or Clan. The name was spelt in many ways: **Bell, Beal, Bel,** and **Bale** being but some. These

Clan Bell at Tucson Celtic Festival

By Pat Anderson
CBI Commissioner-Arizona

Tucson Celtic Festival 2007 (November 3-4) was the first two-day event in many years and as such, did not always go according to plan. However, we were able to greet and chat with many of our "games friends" and other than mid to high-80s temperatures, the weather cooperated! One couple, vendors of Highland cattle hamburgers, were most interesting, as was Ken Stewart, the family crest/genealogy vendor. They were impressed at our general knowledge. How about that!

We had thirteen people sign in and talk to us, seven with the Bell surname and most of the rest having Bell connections. Those who didn't, must've liked our setup! I was not always present to know but at least one person took a membership application. Fran and Jim Bell help me out here: Did we get more than one?

Because of the heat, we did not participate in Opening Ceremonies, first time ever, but since we had many folks who stopped by without signing in, it was obvious no one had a problem knowing we were in attendance.

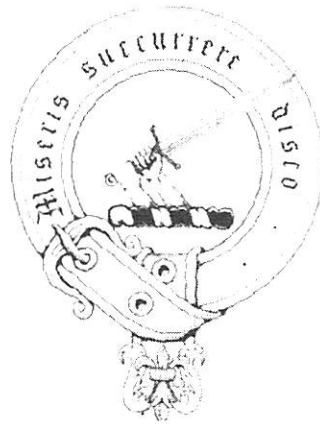
GOT PHOTOS? GOT TEXT?

How would you like to share some of your Bell photos and stories that might serve to enhance interest in Clan Bell International and the Scottish culture in general. Is there a child in your family who is a competitive highland dancer? or taking bagpipe lessons or Scottish fiddle lessons?. Or perhaps there is a Bell in your family who participates in heavy athletics at Highland Games?

Share the treasure with other Bells. E-mail Nabelich: raybellprint@msn.com



CLAN BELL CREST



CLAN MacMILLAN CREST

Bells were one of the great "riding families" of the lawless Borders region, who (like the Galloway MacMillans) supported the House of Douglas. They were known as the "Bells of Middlebie" and the "Bells of Annandale." Scottish and English kin alike acknowledged a William Bell of Blackethouse, who died c. 1628, as the Chief of their name. He was known as "Redcloak," and since his death, the clan has been without a chief.

There is a record of a Galloway MacMillan marrying a Bell. This may be the actual origin of the association of Lowland Bells with the MacMillans.

By permission of the Lord Lyon, a petition will be filed to appoint a new Chief and re-establish the Clan. Hopefully, the Clan will soon be formally re-established. In the interim, Clan Bell is represented by Clan Bell International.

The "Bell" Sept of the Clan MacMillan

The MacMillan "Bells" came from Argyll in the Highlands. So if your "Bell" ancestors came from the Highlands or spoke Gaelic, there is a good chance they are really MacMillans. Their name Bell or "Bhell" is actually a contraction of the Gaelic "Mhaoil," which is the original MacMillan surname MacGilleMhaoilain. Ac-

ording to the late Bard and Historian of our Clan, the Rev. Somerled MacMillan (1909-1977): *Those Bells are actually descendents of MacMillans in Glaen Array and Glen Shira. Their progenitor was one of the six clansmen who accompanied Malcom Mor's son John when he fled to Lochaber, c. 1365....The ancestor of the Bells, feeling rather homesick, returned to Argyll and settled in Badokennan at the head of Loch Fynne (MacMillans and Their Septs, Glasgow 1951, pp. 111 f.).*

It appears that MacMillans in many parts of the Highlands took the name Bell when English names became fashionable during the late eighteenth century. In Gaelic, "MacMillan" is usually rendered MacMhaoilain, while "Bell" is rendered MacGilleMhaoilain - an older form of the same name.

All Bells are welcomed in the Clan MacMillan Society, and several have held leading offices. Out of deference to the newly reformed "Clan Bell," however, inquirers of the Bell name are encouraged to research their background before they assume that they are nicknamed MacMillans and are more accurately defined as descendants of the Bell Clan of the Borders region.

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LONE BELL, Lawman, Meets Billy The Kid, Shootist

civil war. In Val Verde County, Texas, he reportedly befriended Judge Roy Bean, the self-styled jurist obsessed with English actress Lily Langtree. Bean conducted his dubious judicial deliberations out of the aptly named Jersey Lily Saloon in Langtry, Texas, a seedy emporium swamped in rot-gut whiskey and amateur lawyers. Apparently with some encouragement from the eminent jurist, Bell became fascinated with law enforcement and moved on to join up with Captain C. R. Perry's Company D of the Texas Rangers' Frontier Battalion in 1875, a year after the unit was formed. After decades of unrestrained violence in the state, the Texas government was bent on getting rid of troublesome Indians, rustlers and outlaws in general. The Frontier Battalion, a force of some 450 Rangers commanded by Major John B. Jones, participated in 15 Indian battles, and effectively neutralized the once powerful Comanche's and Kiowas. But perhaps more importantly, the Rangers also thinned the ranks of more than 3,000 Texas desperados, neutralizing the likes of bank robber Sam Bass and notorious gunfighter John Wesley Hardin. Bell's company served mainly in San Saba County, Texas. However, in 1879 Bell came down with gold fever. He quit the Rangers and drifted across the Llano Escado, or Staked Plains, in northwestern Texas and eastern New Mexico, where a minor gold rush was getting under way. He became a miner in White Oaks, Lincoln County, New Mexico. The gold did not pan out, and in late 1880 Bell found himself dead center of New Mexico's notorious Lincoln County Cattle War. It was a deadly greed-fuelled feud between rival

camp of cattle barons and merchants. Bell lined up with Sheriff Pat Garrett against the ranchers'



A familiar photograph to most Americans, this this widely-published tintype of William H. Bonney, a.k.a. Billy the Kid, was taken in 1879

Lincoln County Regulators, championed by Billy The Kid. While the Regulators consisted of dozens of American and Mexican drifters, thugs and cowboys at various times, the main protagonists became known as the "Iron Clad" — Billy the Kid, Richard Brewer, Frank McNab, Doc Scurlock, Jim French, John Middleton, George and Frank Coe, Jose Chavez y Chavez, Charlie Bowdre, Tom O'Folliard, Fred Waite, and Henry Brown. A Who's Who of western wanted posters. After a long spree of gun battles, ambushes, murders, sieges and house-burnings, the U.S. Army arrived in Lincoln County with some artillery and scattered the warring factions with a few rounds of cannon fire. The Lincoln County War quickly

petered out, fostering nothing but distrust and animosity and making fugitives out of the surviving Regulators, most notably Billy the Kid. According to legend, Billy killed 21 men — one for each year of his life, even though he was 23 when he died — though many sources now believe he actually gunned down a dozen or less, mostly during the Lincoln County fracas. The total included six lawmen. One of those was Sheriff William Brady, killed by Billy April 1, 1878, and a murder warrant was issued for the Kid's arrest. Bonney was finally surrounded and forced into surrendering by Sheriff Garrett and a posse in December, 1880. The Kid was jailed in the town of Mesilla while awaiting his April, 1881 murder trial, which took one day and resulted in the only conviction ever secured against any of the Lincoln County Cattle War combatants. Bonney was sentenced to be hanged on May 13, 1881 and sent to the jail on the top floor of the Lincoln County courthouse to await execution. There, Sheriff Garrett assigned deputies James W. Bell and Bob Olinger to watch the 23-year-old prisoner's every move. The whole town knew that with his life on the line Billy would attempt an escape from the Lincoln County jail prior to his date with the hangman's noose. Despite everything, Bell became rather friendly with the young outlaw, a man about five feet, nine inches in height with blue eyes, smooth cheeks and crooked buck teeth. Born in the New York slums, Billy's Irish Catholic father died circa 1866 after moving the family west to Kansas City. The mother remarried and the reconstituted family resettled in Silver City, New Mexico in 1873. Billy's real name was Henry McCarty, and he also used his stepfather's surname, Antrim, as an alias, along with William H. Bonney in later years.

Billy could be friendly and personable at times, as Lone Bell quickly learned, but he also possessed a hair-trigger temper and the survival instincts of a trapped mountain lion. Combined with the excellent shooting skills he acquired as a teenager, he quickly evolved into the most dangerous kind of outlaw — a killer without a conscience. Just two weeks before their scheduled hanging, while Garrett was out of town on business, Bonney stunned the territory by killing both of his guards and escaping custody, fulfilling the town's bitter prophecy in spades. The details of the escape are un-

Billy reportedly said later that he had admired Lone Bell and hated to kill him, but he was left with no other method of winning his freedom.

clear, fogged by legends and lies for well over a century. Some historians believe that a friend or a Regulator sympathizer left a pistol hidden in a privy behind the courthouse that Bonney used, under escort, each day. Shortly after 6 p.m. on April 28, Billy politely asked to use the outhouse and was escorted there in leg-irons and wrist manacles by Deputy Bell. Bonney then retrieved the hidden gun, so the story goes, and after Bell had led him back to the courthouse, shot his guard in the back as the two of them reached the top of a flight of stairs leading to the second-storey cells and sheriff's office. Another, more plausible version of the escape holds that Bonney slipped out of one of his manacles at the top of the stairs on the way back to his cell, and in a split second struck Bell on the head, grabbed the deputy's own gun and shot J.W. in the

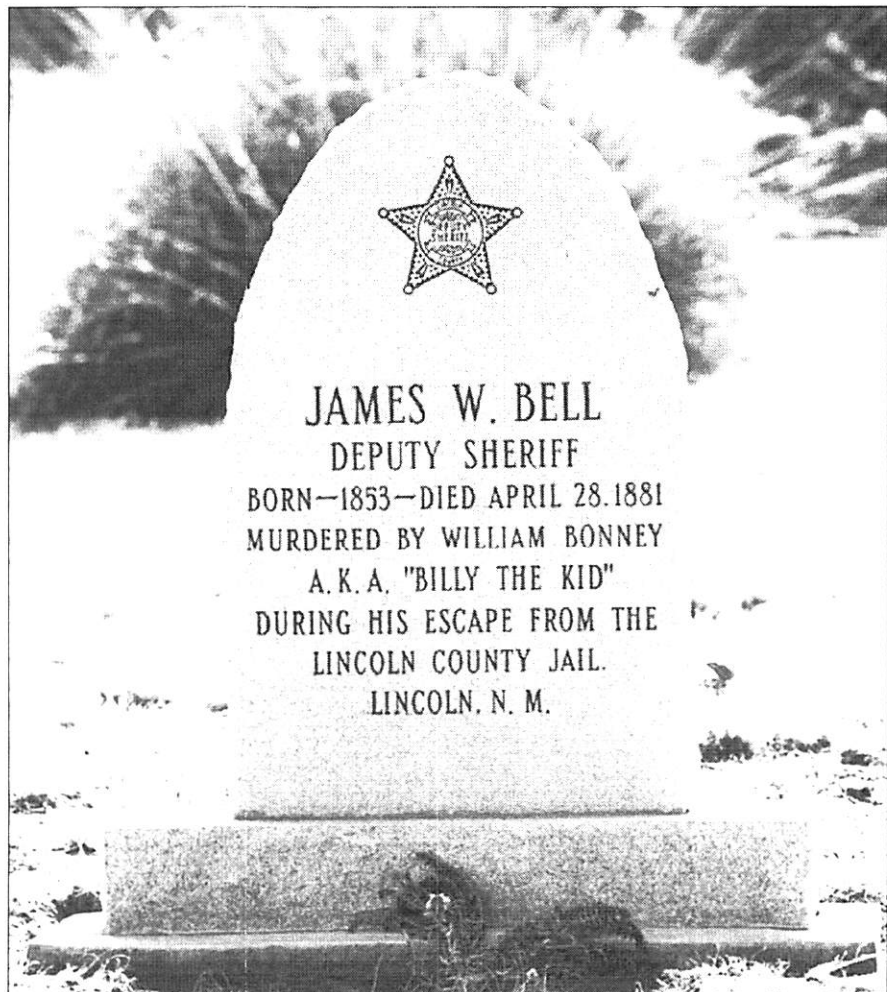
back. However it happened, Bell staggered down the stairs out into the street where he collapsed, mortally wounded and died within a couple of minutes. Meanwhile, Bonney rushed inside the courthouse and scooped up Bob Olinger's prized ten-gauge double barrel shotgun from an office gun rack. He loaded it up and waited at an upstairs window for the second deputy, who had been across the street at a hotel dininroom supervising the nightly feeding of other prisoners.

As Olinger came running to Bell's aid, Bonney took aim with the shotgun, called out "Hello Bob!" and gave him both barrels, killing him instantly. Billy then used an axe to hack through his leg-irons, stole a horse and rode

out of town at a leisurely pace, humming a cheerful tune to himself as an awed citizenry meekly watched him leave.

Billy reportedly said later that he had admired Lone Bell and hated to kill him, but he was left with no other method of winning his freedom. A coroner's jury looked into the deaths of Bell and Olinger and said in its verdict a few days later: "We, the undersigned, Justice of the Peace and jury who sat upon the inquest held at the courthouse in Lincoln in said county of Lincoln and Territory of New Mexico on the bodies of Robert Olinger and J.W. Bell found in Precinct No. 1 of the county of Lincoln, find that the deceased Robt. Olinger and J.W. Bell both came to their death by

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Local citizens erected this new tombstone in James Bell's honor on July 19, 2003.

reason of gunshot wounds inflicted on them by William Bonney, alias Billy the Kid, while said Bonney was held in custody for the murder of William Brady and was awaiting his execution upon conviction of that crime and that Olinger and Bell were guarding him they were murdered by said Bonney, alias Kid, in making his escape from custody."

The Lincoln County jailbreak was one of several escapes Billy engineered during his career. But his reign of terror was brought to an end three months later when he was tracked, shot and killed by Pat Garrett at midnight on July 14, 1881 as the outlaw entered a friend's darkened home near Fort Sumner, New Mexico, with gun drawn. The Kid's last words: "Quien es? Quien es?" (Who is it? Who is it?). Garrett recognized his voice, and fired two shots, one of which hit the Kid just above the heart, killing him instantly.

A few years ago, J.W. Bell's unmarked grave was rediscovered by a team of researchers in Cedarvale cemetery in White Oaks, now almost a ghost town, 12 miles north of Carrizozo, New Mexico. The few remaining locals got together and a new tombstone was erected in his honor on July 19, 2003, followed by a wake of Olympian proportions at Grady and Betty Stewart's nearby White Oaks Saloon & Social Club — "No Scum Allowed."

The inscription on the large white stone says simply: "James W. Bell Deputy Sheriff Born-1853-died April 28, 1881 Murdered by William Bonney a.k.a. 'Billy the Kid' during his escape from the Lincoln County Jail, Lincoln, N. M."

Lone Bell's silent epitaph is a deputy sheriff's star carefully chiseled into the new grave marker.

A word about the Haggis

By Ray Bell

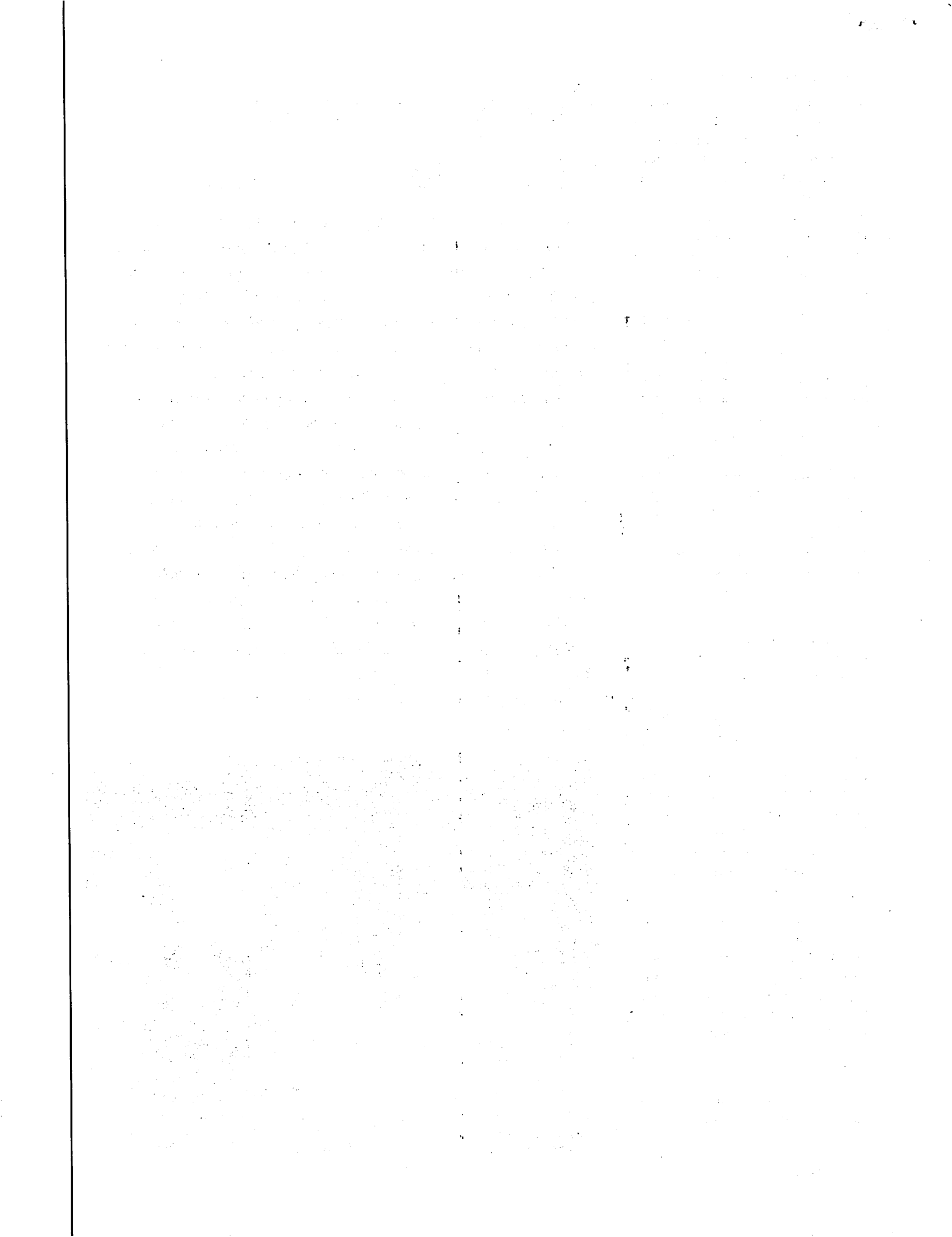
For those who have but a passing interest in Scottish culture, the Haggis can be truly a mystery. Why the big to do over a seemingly-repulsive culinary subject? Native Scots have often played pranks on naïve outsiders with their stories about Haggis being a small nocturnal creature that roams the Highlands. In truth, the recipe and ingredients (you don't really want to know) for preparing and cooking haggis is no secret. It can be found in Scottish cookbooks and on line: the nicely-chopped innards of a sheep (heart, liver and lungs) mixed with beef suet, oatmeal and spices, and then boiled in the stomach of a sheep. Mmmmm! Yummy!

Some experts think that Scotland's greatest poet, (the world's most celebrated poet) Robert Burns, was pulling our collective leg when he glorified the disgusting peasant food with his now-world-famous, "Address to the Haggis." He had no clue the worldwide impact that his seemingly-harmless little ditty would have on humanity. Irrespective of its gross appearance and ingredients, the Haggis continues to be a central part of many Scottish gatherings and especially the hundreds of Robert Burns Birthday Celebrations each year (on or about January 25), which are held all over the world by Scots and their descendents.

Go figure!!



New England Bells host "Clan Bell Table" at Burns Supper 2008 in Leominster, MA . Sitting l.to r. Janet and Bill Jacobs; Monica Bell and John Bell. Standing l.to.r. Jane Bright, Ray Bell, Patty Bell Gettman, Laurie Bell, Barbara Murray Kfoury, Karen Little, both of Clan Murray





Fair fa your honest sones face,
 Great chieftain of the pudding race
 Aboon them a' ye tak your place
 Dreich Tripe or thairm,
 Weel are ye wordy of a grace as lang's ma
 arm.

The gradaninng trencher, there ye fill,
 Your hurdies like a distant hill,
 Your pin wad help to mend a mill in time o'
 need,

While through your pores the dewis distill
 Like amber bead

His kife, the rustic labor dight
 And cut you up wi' ready sight,
 Trenching your gushing entrails bright,
 Like onie ditch,

Then oh wha' a glorious sight,
 Warm, reaking, rich...

...and the Robert Burns "Address to the Haggis" continues on for thirty-one more lines.

FREE TO OUR READERS In commemoration of Robert Burns birthday anniversary, we will send to any of our readers who ask, a copy of the Robert Burns "Address to the Haggis" printed in a Celtic font on gold-colored parchment and suitable for framing. We'll also send you, printed on plain paper, an English translation of the original Scots-dialect Address.

Email: raybellprint@msn.com or USPS mail: Nabelich, 1 Charleston Ave, Unit 15, Londonderry, NH 03053

Clan BELL and Robbie Burns Nite Celebrations

We always encourage our members to be involved in Scottish-oriented activities and events as a means of acquiring a deeper appreciation for, and involvement in the Scottish culture in North America. Since Clan Bell is comparatively new on the Scottish Festivals scene, CBI member participation and involvement enhances our recognition as an active clan.

For several years, CBI Bells of Massachusetts and New Hamp-

shire have been strong supporters of an Annual Robert Burns Celebration in Leominster Mass. that attracts more than 250 Scots and "wannabees." It is by far, the most superb Robert Burns Celebration within many miles.

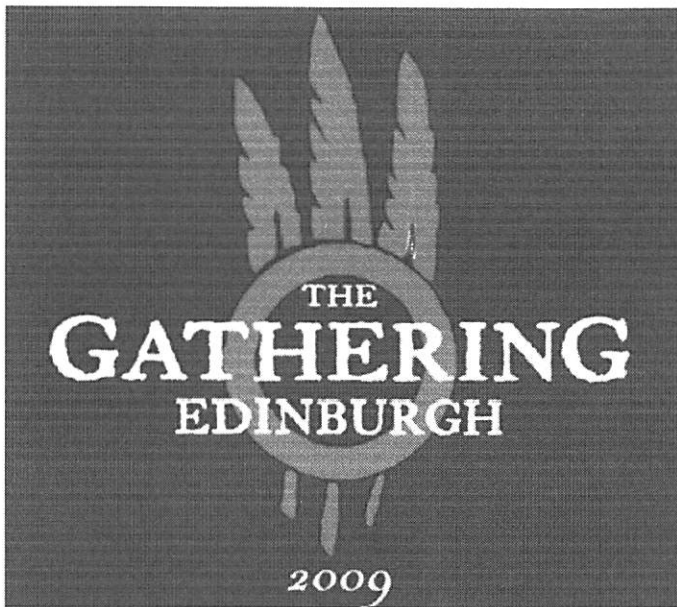
Held each year in the fine Sheraton Four Points Hotel, The Scots Highland Pipes and Drums of Ashbee, Mass. put on a spectacular evening of fun and celebrating featuring dinner of roast beef, neeps and tatties; dancing; and a magnificent bagpipe band concert in collaboration with the Sutherland Pipes and Drums from

Newton, Massachusetts. The stirring "Amazing Grace" performed by the massed bands always manages to lift one's spirit and warm the soul, the purpose of which is to help the attendees get through the frigid, stormy, winter months.

Both the local Scottish American Military Society (SAMS), and Clan Bell are names that stand out each year as consistent promoters and supporters of the gala event...which plays a big role in perpetuating interest in Scottish-American culture.

This year's tribute was especially significant. Just one year short of a quarter century. Next year promises to be bigger and better to coincide with the 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns.





A celebration of the contributions made by the clans to the culture and history of Scotland

Holyrood Park, Edinburgh

July 25-26, 2009

www.clangathering.org

Royal Patron for Clan Gathering

Prince Charles is to be patron of the biggest clan gathering in Edinburgh for almost 190 years.

More than 8,000 clansmen and clanswomen from around the globe will come together in Edinburgh for The Gathering in the Holyrood Park in July 2009.

Overview of events

The main event is the International Gathering of Scottish Clans

The parade of Clans up the Royal Mile will culminate in a spectacular pageant at the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. This is the same location as the world-renowned Edinburgh Military Tattoo is held each year.

Highland Games Including the 2009 World Games Heavy Events; Highland dancing competitions; and all the other events that one would expect to see at Highland Games

It will be the first time since Sir Walter Scott's Royal Pageant in 1822 that so many clans have assembled in the city. The event will

be held as part of the Homecoming Scotland celebrations.

The programme will feature the 2009 World Highland Games Heavy Events Championship and an International Gathering of Scottish Clans and Families.

A parade of the clans up the Royal Mile will culminate in a spectacular pageant on the esplanade of Edinburgh Castle. There will also be a strong focus on traditional Highland Games, with solo piping and Highland dancing competitions, and there will be opportunities for people to research clan histories and genealogy.

Jamie Sempill, director of The Gathering 2009, said it was a "great honour" for the event to have Prince Charles as patron. He added: "His presence will mean so much to all those who have

travelled from overseas to take part in this unique gathering, which celebrates the clans' contribution to the history and culture of Scotland.

"It is important to remember that the renaissance of Highland games and clan gatherings can largely be attributed to Queen Victoria's patronage and her love of the Highlands with all its traditions.

However, as the Duke of Rothesay and the Lord of the Isles, the Prince of Wales

represents a far older connection between the monarchy and the clans of Scotland.

"Therefore it is only right and fitting that the greatest gathering of clans and chiefs ever to be held should be honoured by the presence of Prince Charles.

Homecoming Scotland is being held by the Scottish Government during 2009 to honour the 250th anniversary of the birth of Scot-



land's celebrated poet, Robert Burns, by showcasing aspects of Scottish culture.

OVERVIEW NOTES

Although Clan Bell International is not planning to participate officially in this gathering in Scotland, CBI members who are considering attending, are encouraged to make decisions very soon. Full information is available from the "Gathering 2009" Website:

www.the.gathering.org

The following, however, are notes gleaned from several sources including data circulated by other clans and may be helpful in navigating through the mass of information available.

Ticket-Passports and Accommodations

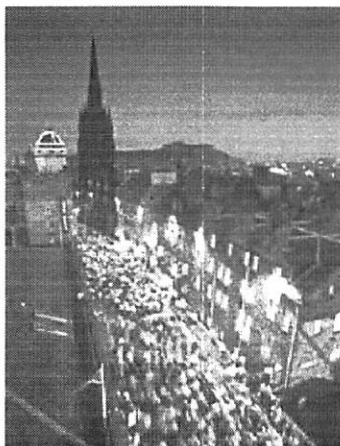
Tickets are called passports and they will come in three grades: Gold, Silver and Bronze

The passports will allow the holder unlimited access to the Games; participate in the march; and see the pageant at the castle. The only difference in the pricing of the three passport types is the seating at the pageant. Some who have attended the tattoo in previous years, recommend Silver passports for best overall view.

Limited number of passports

Only 8500 passports will be issued and of that amount, 8,000 will be issued to the general public. A certain number of these are being held in reserve to be sold by six appointed Travel Agents but only in conjunction with accommodation bookings. The actual sale of the Passports will begin in March so the best way to assure passports is to book your accommodations NOW! The best way to do this is to visit the web site, **www.thegathering.org**.

Then click on the Accommodations link on the left side. This will bring you to the official list of travel agents. The first list of Agents web addresses may not work and you may have to scroll down to the



Night view of the Royal Mile where thousands of clan members are expected to march in July of 2009

list of Agents names. Another clan highly recommends to its members that they use Cashel Travel. They can be contacted directly through their web address at www.casheltravel.com. Their web page gives a list of hotels by categories and prices and also gives information about hotel locations and distance from the games. You can book accommodations directly through Cashel. If you book accommodations on line, it is recommended that you also confirm by phone at 44 845 119 6220. (Use U.S. dial out # 110) Other travel agents most likely offer similar service.

Accommodations on your own
Arranging accommodations and buying Passports on your own could be a bit challenging. If you are able to buy a passport when they come on sale, you certainly could check around for accommodations at whatever price range you desire. However, be aware that most hotels, B&Bs, and hostels are not accepting reservations at this time and probably will not do so until 12 months prior to the event.

If you cannot buy a passport ticket or do not wish to go to that expense, you can still visit the games which will last a full two days. The price of that ticket has not yet been announced.

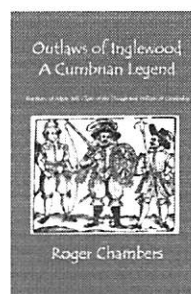
Book Corner

From time to time, we will once again feature books that are relevant to the study of Bell history. Readers are invited to write synopses of books that they have read and think would be well suited to our readers' "Bell-study" libraries.

Outlaws of Inglewood, A Cumbrian Legend (Paperback)

by Roger Chambers

List Price: \$16.00 In Stock. Ships from and sold by Amazon.com.



The legend of Adam Bell, Clym of the Clough and William of Cloudeley has been known to storytellers since at least the early years of the fifteenth century and the first, full, printed account dates from around 1565. Its setting is Inglewood, that ancient forest between Carlisle and Penrith as well as Carlisle city itself and London. It is an exciting story of outlawry, betrayal, murder, escape from a besieged burning house, a running battle through the streets of Carlisle and a William Tell like demonstration of skilful archery in front of the king and queen, after which Outlaws of Inglewood takes the medieval text of the original ballad and translates and adapts it to novel form for modern readers. There is a postscript and bibliography for those who want to know more about the legend, its origin and development, and a transcription of the original ballad is included for additional interest. The book is illustrated in a "naïve medieval style" by Paola Fontana.

Update on Poly-Viscose Bell of the Borders tartan material

Especially for our new readers who may not be aware of the progress that has been made, our Oregon Commissioner, Karissa Beals, after considerable research, introduced us to Poly-Viscose, a high-tech fabric that can be woven into our "Bell of the Borders" tartan. Karissa has been working closely with Neokilt, the weaver, and we are very close to placing our order.

To recap, the material is washable; looks great; no need for moth balls; holds a pleat; is far cooler than wool and is far less expensive. Our task as an organization was to commit to 133 meters which is what the weaver re-

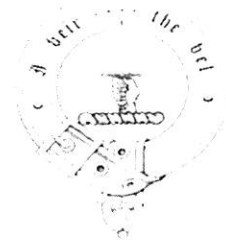
quires to initiate the production process. Apparently, many of us wanted to take advantage of the many benefits of the new material. At last count, we were within 30 meters of meeting our goal which means, instead of paying as much as \$80/yd. for woolen tartan, we could be paying as little as \$23.00/yd plus shipping. If you haven't yet called in your yardage needs, contact Karissa. We're almost there.

Karissa Beals, Oregon Commissioner, Clan Bell International
3127 Kinsrow Avenue, Apt. 73,
Eugene, OR 97401.
e-mail: krisab@uoregon.edu or call:
541-342-1067 (leave a max. 30-second message on voice mail.

Originally, Poly-Viscose material was popular among Scottish athletes who needed attire that was cooler than heavy-woolen kilts when competing during the hot summer months. Those athletes were also troubled with dry-cleaning expenses when competing (sometimes weekly). The Scots athletes may have been a driving force in the development of the tartan material. Now, it is available for a wide range of uses.

As we asked one year ago in this newsletter, "In addition to kilts, would you like to have home décor accessories (table cloths, pillow covers, placemats, wall hangings, flags, etc.) in the Bell-of-the-Borders tartan, and not be concerned about dry-cleaning expense and the problems that come with caring for wool material?" Poly-viscose is a high-quality material that is attractive, washable, and affordable.

We are not alone



The crest badge currently in use by the Clan Bell International features an up-thrust or erect dagger. Many of our members find the dagger symbol to be distinctive, preferring it over many of the devices appearing on the crest badges of other clans. Take away the motto, however, our crest badge, designed from the coat of arms of one of the last Bells of Rammer-scales, is not all together that distinctive.

The erect dagger is a popular device used by 11 different clans or clan societies according to Mike McLaren's *The Book of Crests*. In addition to the CBI, the dagger symbol is featured on the crest badges of the Chief of Clan Charteris, U.S. Society-Clan Dalzell, Dunlop/Dunlap Family Clan Society, Inc. in the U.S.A., Chief of Clan Erskine, Clan Kirkpatrick, Chief of Clan MacDowall of Garthland, Clan MacIntyre of Glenoe, Clan MacAlister, Chief of Clan MacKay, and the Chief of Clan Shaw of Tordarroch.

On ten of the above crest badges the featured dagger is held by a hand. The crest badge of Clan Dalzell, by contrast, features a dagger standing upright, but without a hand. The dagger on the crest badge of Clan Kirkpatrick has a unique feature, blood droplets on the upper half of the dagger's blade.

There are other crest badges that feature daggers in some form or another. The crest badges of Clans Bain and Barclay feature hand-held daggers, but part of the arm is shown and the daggers point to the right. The crest of the Chief of Clan Chisholm features a boar's head impaled on a dagger. Daggers are also displayed on the crest badges of Clan MacGuarie of Ulva and Clan Morrison. It would appear that our clan is not alone with its fascination with daggers.

Great Gift Ideas for BELLS

We have some great ideas that just may be perfect for a special Bell descendent ON YOUR LIST. The BELL gift ideas featured here are offered by CBI members and are in addition to the array of BELL items listed on the Bell Store page; the Clan Bell website; and the Bell Omnibus CD featured on the back page.



Bell Crest Pins

These pins are of excellent-quality. Both the kilt pin and cap/sash pin are adorned with an accurate, detailed Clan Bell crest. Our Oregon Commissioner, has brought quantities of these metal Clan Bell crest pins to our shores. Manufactured in Scotland, the quality of these pins is exceptional. Wonderful craftsmanship and more ruggedly made than many clan pins currently on the market. ORDER EARLY! There's no waiting weeks for your pins. **Orders are shipped next day!** Each pin is just \$25.00 including Shipping & Handling (within the continental US). Specify quantity and type, and mail along with your check or money order to the address below.

Contact:

Karissa Beals, Oregon Commissioner, Clan Bell International
3127 Kinsrow Avenue, Apt. 73,
Eugene, OR 97401.

e-mail: krisab@uoregon.edu or call:
541-342-1067 (leave a max. 30-second message on voice mail.



ALSO...SEE THE ARRAY OF BELL BOOKS AND BELL BOOKS ON CD; SHARP-LOOKING CLAN BELL T-SHIRTS; "Clan pride" PRINTS FOR FRAMING; and more (Page 14)

HOW ABOUT THIS FOR A GREAT GIFT IDEA?

A wee getaway stay at the "Bell-of-the-Borders" Room featured at member-operated Bed and Breakfast

CBI members Phyllis and Ron Esler, operate The Thistle House Bed and Breakfast and Wedding Place, a charming, 4-guestroom brick home with a Scotland flair, nestled on beautifully-landscaped 3 1/2 acres also provides a wonderful atmosphere for small outdoor weddings. One of the largest guest

rooms is named "Bell of the Borders Room" (after Ron's heritage and contains artifacts from the family's history.

Located in the quiet town of Granite Falls, North Carolina, the Thistle House is situated at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains where thousands of Scots, Scots-Irish immigrants made their home. They are located less than an hour's drive from the Grandfather Mountain Highland Games.

Visit bbonline.com
or their website: thistlehousebb.com

Here's a gift idea for the Bell-heritage researcher in your family.

Fran and Jim Bell's new book is an excellent Bell-heritage resource. It is entitled:

Sir Robert Bell and His Early Virginia Descendants.

This educational narrative tells a story of Bell migration patterns and their involvement in many historical events. It addresses the Bells from the days of the Norman Conquerors of the British Isles, through Bells in Jamestown Virginia, to Bell Patriots in the American Revolution War.

84 page, 8 1/4" x 11" soft-cover book contains illustrations, maps, charts, end notes, sources and index. Purchase on line at: www.SirRobertBell.com or by calling the publisher at: 1-888-934-0888; or by e-mailing the authors,

Fran and Jim Bell at:
jmblue96@aol.com or by writing them at:

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ORDER FORM

Clan Bell International Store

DESCRIPTION

PRICE QTY. TOTAL

BOOKS on CD-ROM FORMAT

The Bell Family in Dumfriesshire... The only book known today giving a history of the Border Bells was available in soft cover format until it went out of print. However, newly published in PDF format, this informative book is again readily available to the public. This book was written by James Steuart and published under the auspices of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society. Steuart's mother was a Crowdieknowe Bell and he began his notes as a personal recording of the pedigree of his maternal ancestors. **\$10.00**

The Bells in U.S.A. and Allied Families 1650-1977... This book is the most comprehensive compilation of genealogical information about Bell immigrants and their descendants ever published in the United States. Published in 1977, the only printing of the cloth-bound book was limited and the supply was soon exhausted. Because of its length, reprinting the book in its original hard-bound format would have been prohibitively expensive. **\$10.00**

The Bell Omnibus This CD-ROM contains electronic copies in reader format of the below six more popular booklets printed by Clan Bell International having to do with the family of Bells in Scotland and America. **\$ 25.00**

BOOKS and BOOKLETS

Memorial of the Clan of the Bells ... A reprint of an old manuscript written in 1692 and a collection of notes written in 1864 about the Bells of Kirkconnel and Blackethouse. **\$ 7.00**

The Bells of St. Andrews ... A reprint of Alexander Graham Bell's compilation of birth, marriage and death records covering the period of 1627 to 1828 **\$ 7.00**

The Bell Family Records ... A reprint of a book that features the genealogies of British Bells of Beltour, Thirsk, Pendall Court, Bourne Park and Rouston Range during the time period from the 14th through the 19th centuries. **\$ 6.00**

The Bell Family in America... A reprint of a book that contains an account of the first Bell families in America, including a list by state, of every family in the United States according to the 1790 US Census. **\$ 5.00**

Stone Church Bells ... An account of Stone Church Bells my Major Henderson Moffat Bell (CSA). Based on a letter written in 1895, this small booklet provides valuable information about the "Stone Church" branch of a family founded by the immigrant, William Bell and his wife, Mary in the first half of the 18th century. **\$ 7.00**

Coat of Arms of the Bells ... This booklet contains more than two dozen high-quality illustrations of arms granted to Bells in the UK and coats of arms and heraldic devices used by Bell family organizations. **\$ 5.00**

Colonel Ninian Beall Papers ... A reprint of an historical paper about the life and public service of Colonel Ninian Beall. **\$ 3.50**

The Colonial War Services of Colonel Ninian Beall ... An excellent supplement to the historical paper on Colonel Ninian Beall. **\$ 7.00**

John Yates Beal, Confederate Commando ... This monograph culminates several years of research and it's purpose is to present an accurate account of John Yates Bell's life and extraordinary Civil War career. **\$ 7.00**

William Bell's Voyage in 1817 to Canada ... If you have ever wondered what it was like on a sea voyage that carried our ancestors from Scotland or Ireland to America so many, many years ago, then you are in luck. Transcribed into electronic format by his gr gr gr grandson, Rupert Speyer, letters written by Rev. William Bell provide a vivid account of the voyage that he and his family made from Scotland to Canada in 1817. Rev. William Bell was the first Presbyterian minister as well as teacher in Perth. The account of his family's voyage aboard the ship, *Rothiemurchus*, to Canada is spelled out in a book the Reverend published in 1824 entitled, *Hints to Immigrants*. The book comprises 25 letters describing the voyage and explains the immigration process. Six of the twenty five letters are devoted solely to the voyage and are reprinted in this book. Thanks to Dennis Bell, CBI's Canada Representative for bringing this ocean-voyage account to our attention. **\$ 7.00**

SHIRTS IMPRINTED WITH CLAN BELL CREST

Great-looking navy blue shirts... heavy weight, 50/50 Cotton Polyester. The Clan Bell crest is printed in white on the back and the wording, *CLAN BELL* is printed in a Celtic font over the heart on the front.

Please indicate quantity of each shirt size in boxes provided

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Keltic Kwiz Korner

We regret to report that Annette Hixenbaugh's **Keltic Kwiz Korner** will no longer be produced. The questions and answers from last issue are reproduced below.

HOWEVER, beginning with the next issue of NABELICH, we will present a similar section (created by our own staff) designed to test our readers' Scots knowledge and perhaps even encourage a little research. As a member of CBI, if you would care to submit interesting

and little known facts relative to Scots history and Scots impact on our modern world (including Bell-specific items), we would welcome your contributions. We want items that could be presented as questions (the answers of which would be found elsewhere in our publication. E-mail raybellprint@msn.com or USPS mail: Nabelich, 1 Charleston Ave., Unit 15, Londonderry, NH 03053

Below are the questions offered in the last newsletter along with their answers

Question 1: Which Scottish family gave its name to a brand of coffee? ANSWER: Maxwell

Question 2: He was a 1950s television detective with a Scottish name. Who was he? ANSWER; Peter Gunn

Question 3: This Scottish family gave its name to a sweet cracker. Who were they? ANSWER; Graham

Question 4: What does Donnachaid mean? ANSWER: Fat Duncan

Question 5: The Bell family gave us the following: (a) the inventor of the telephone; (b) a Civil War General and (3) the model for Sherlock Holmes. Name each of the above. ANSWERS; (a) Alexander Graham Bell; (b) Brigadier General Tyree H. Bell, C.S.A. and (c) Dr. Joseph Bell.





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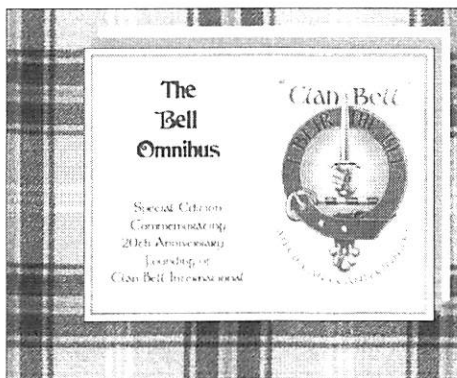
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To:

Ideal gift for Bell researchers

"The Bell Omnibus" CD-Rom

A tremendous bargain! This CD-ROM contains six of the more popular booklets having to do with the family of Bell in Scotland and America, which were previously reprinted by Clan Bell International (CBI). All six booklets in reader format on CD-ROM for just \$25. A real bargain compared to paying \$40 for the six books in hard copy!



This CD-ROM version of Bell Family Omnibus is copyright protected with all rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright Conventions. CD-ROM – Copyright © by Clan Bell International, Ltd.

The Bell Omnibus commemorates the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Bell Family Association of the United States, predecessor organization of Clan Bell International (CBI) which was celebrated May 17 -20, 2007 at a special Gathering in Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Bell Omnibus CD-Rom CONTAINS

The Bells of St. Andrews, compiled by Alexander Graham Bell, the inventor

Memorial of the Clan of the Bells by Charles Davidson Bell, Surveyor General of Cape of Good Hope

The Bell Family in America, a historical account of early American Bells by William M. Clemens

Bell Family Records, a compilation by J. Montgomery Seaver of the history and genealogies of Bell families in the UK and the USA

Bell Family Stone Church Bells, Augusta County, Virginia, compiled from material by Harry E. Handley, M.D. and Major Henderson Moffatt Bell (CSA)

Coats of Arms and Other Heraldic Devices Associated With the Surname of Bell, Beall and Other Spellings of the Name by Ward L. Ginn, Jr., FSA