

The Muirhead



Clan badge of a member
of Clan Muirhead

March 2004 Edition

President/Chief Elect's Report For The First Quarter 2004

Order Of The Saltire Recipients

As the Muirhead Clan Society President and Commander in Chief Elect, it gives me great pleasure to award those members listed below with Clan Muirhead's highest honor for your exceptional service in the advancement of the goals of the Muirhead Clan Society. This custom designed medal and certificate has been especially designed by myself and commercially produced for the first time to recognize members for their enthusiastic spirit, dedication, and contributions to success and growth of Clan Muirhead.

Those listed with a star after their name noting they are second time recipients and will also receive an oak leaf to represent their added achievement as soon as they become available. All recipients will also be honored on our website on our new Honored Members Page.

As representative of the Muirhead Clan Society, I will record your name among an elite and honored group of our members, in our Clan Rolls and Clan history as an "Order of the Saltire" recipient.



The Order of the Saltire Medallion as designed by
Raymond L. Morehead, Muirhead Clan Chief Elect.
(Not actual size. Picture shown is smaller than actual item)

Be it therefore known to all, our heirs, kith and kin and friends alike that they should show honor to you, for you have brought honor to us all through your contributions to us all.

“AUXILIO DEI” For Clan and Kindred’s Cause they give, Recipients for the years ending:

Dec. 2000

Sandie L. Morehead-Smith of WA
Susan Shaw of WA
David Grossett of TX

Dec. 2001

Susan Shaw *
Sandie and Jerimy Smith*
David Grossett*
Larry Smith of PA
Charles D. Morehead of WA
Adam L. Morehead of WA

Dec. 2002

Fran McGregor of WA
Robert and Bonnie Schueler of WA
Jeremy Wright of NY

Dec. 2003

Raymond L. Muirhead of VA
Frances and Hillis Swanson of IL
Nola M. Karr of MD
Susan Nunes of FL
David W. Morehead of MD
Connie and Arnold Frandson of NE.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

I must report that our membership continues to be a concern for me as your representative. As of March 1, 2004 we have only 55 members who have renewed membership for 2004, and of them 6 are life members.

The clan rolls now show a total of 75 members who have not renewed their membership to date. Of the 75 a total of 44 have not renewed for 2004, a total of 14 have not renewed from 2003 and 17 have not renewed since 2002.

I have received no explanation from them after several attempts to contact them. I am at a loss to explain the overall yearly decline in membership renewals. I will continue to work to reduce the losses and promote new memberships through seeking volunteers to act as temporary Clan Conveners to act as representatives of the Clan in their own geographical locations. It is hoped that this will help create positive exposure for the clan and increase new memberships.

I call on all members to help promote and recruit new members through their contacts with family, friends and the general public. We had only one new member for this quarter. Should any of our members wish to make comments or suggestions regarding membership please contact me directly.

Clan Elder Visits Clan Chief Elect

David and Edna May Grossett visited our President at his home in Bonney Lake, Washington State. Although planned as just a personal visit and not an official meeting of our Senior Council Elder and or President/Chief Elect, there was time for talk of some Society items and David was asked to view the clan books. For our President and his wife, Yen Chi, it was an honor to have them both here in their home and finally meet them in person after so many years of emails and phone conversations. The Grossett’s visit, although short, it was a great time and Raymond and his wife welcome their next visit should they get up this way again.



David and Edna May Grossett, with
Raymond L. Morehead

**LETTER FROM ROBIN BLAIR, LVO,
WS LORD LYON KING OF ARMS**

I had written the Lord Lyon to ask the Lyon Court what value and relationship Coats of Arms have to one another of the same name, and if Coats of Arms could be used as genealogical evidence of blood relationships. I hope this information aids your research and gives you an idea of what and how the Lyon Court views secondary source information.

In his letter dated 16 Feb. 2004 he replied:

Dear Mr. Morehead,

"Thank you for your letter of 9 February. The similarities between the first three sets of Arms that you refer to' [Morehead/ Moorehead/ Moorehead/ Muirhead Muirheid/ Muirheide/ Murheid Surnames] 'arise because it is part of the Scottish system that Arms granted to individuals with the same surname are designed to have a visual similarity. I am afraid that this does not prove anything about blood relationship.

As regards to the Arms in the Virginia Register, once again this would be of very limited use as evidence. This Register does not have any status in relation to the Lyon Court records. We will examine whatever evidence is provided and an entry in the Virginia Register might be helpful in confirming or corroborating something. However it would not be sufficient evidence in its own right and in the absence of any other proof as to a particular fact..."

Signed Robin Blair

**Muirhead Clan Society
SOP No.01 dated Jan.17, 2004
For the Establishment and Operation
of Clan Muirhead**

Event Conveners

The Muirhead Clan Society and any and all regional, state and/or Event Conveners shall be non-political and non-profit. Clan members owe their political allegiance solely to their own Nation and shall not, using the name of the Society, take part in any political activity involving the internal affairs of any Nation.

Any and all interim Regional Commissioners, State Conveners, and/or Event Conveners for the Muirhead Clan shall be appointed by the Chief and or his or her Legal representatives i.e. The President and Council and shall serve as his or her governing authority in the region or state he or she was appointed to represent in all matters pertaining to the Muirhead Clan Societies Games and/or festival tents, and will be governed by the Bylaws of the society and under the direction of the Chief and or his or her Legal representatives ie. The President and Council to and for the benefit of all its members and general public.

All costs/ fees expenses of a Clan Convener at any event shall be the responsibility of the Convener. The Muirhead Clan Society will however provide a loaner kit also known as a Convener kit. It will be the responsibility of the Convener to return the kit when he or she is finished with the event, or reimburse the Clan for replacement of items lost or otherwise missing.

(See Convener Kit Itemized list for details).

What Is a Convener?

A Clan Convener is a clan member who wishes to convene / assemble members of the clan at a specific event and/or festival. He or She acts as temporary representer of the Clan for a specific Event and/or events as approved by the Chief and or his or her Legal representatives i.e. The President and Council.

Each Convener for the Muirhead Clan Society shall represent the society in their region or state by approval and authority of the Chief and or his or her Legal representatives i.e. The President and Council.

Convening - it is FUN. But, what is it? Convening is the act of sponsoring a display (referred to as a tent) celebrating our Celtic Heritage at a Scottish and/or Celtic function, such as a Highland Games. The Convener is the individual or individuals serving as sponsors.

Convening is meeting people and telling them of their ancestry. It's a way to make new friends and bring joy to some who are not sure they would belong within a Clan. It is a Social Event.

What Does A Convener DO?

A convener represents the clan at a Scottish or Celtic festival. They schedule participation of the Clan with the sponsors of the event, coordinate attendance at the event with other members of the Clan and oversee Clan participation during the event. As a Convener you are the official extension of the Clan Society at and for a specific event and/or festival, promoting membership as well as a contact and source to help educate the public about our great Scottish and Irish heritage.

Most events require the Clan representatives to pre-register before they may participate. This typically involves completion and return of the event's sponsorship forms. But, in some cases, the convener may also be asked to sign an Indemnity (Hold Harmless) Provision or other legal liability limitation clause. While some events allow (even encourage) the clans to participate for free, most charge a fee ranging from \$25 to \$225 per tent/tent site. If the event does not supply tents, tables, and chairs, the convener is responsible for providing a tent (such as a fly tent or sun shade) and desired tables and chairs. Some events will rent these items - and even help set them up.

The convener also needs to notify local membership of the events they will be attending. Ideally, this is to insure sufficient members of the Clan attend so that everyone - including the convener - may have some time as a spectator.

Finally, it's the convener's responsibility to see that the clan is represented during Clan activities such as the Clan Parade. Most of the time, this can be as simple as setting a time for everyone to meet before the scheduled activity. At times, it may require finding a volunteer participant for specific events (such as an entry in the parade of Clans). These events are a great opportunity to get the family and all kith and kin involved. At the end of the event The Convener will prepare a small report with photos if you have them and submit them to the President and Council so that they be added to the Clan newsletter about your event.

The Costs of Convening

The costs of convening can be subdivided into two categories: one-time and re-occurring. One-time costs are typically the expenses incurred with setting up (e.g. building) your display. Re-occurring are those that are incurred on an annual basis such as the fees charged by many festivals for the right to participate.

All costs will be the responsibility of the Clan Convener, save the cost of the Conveners kit.

At the end of the event the Clan flag will be kept by the Convener as a small thank you from the general membership for serving as Clan Convener.

The Convener's Kit: Now Available!!

Expenses for this kit was paid in part out of the Muirhead Clan Society General Fund and out of my personal funds. This kit will be mailed out to the Conveners as needed and it will be their responsibility to care for it and its prompt return after their event.

1. Custom Made Tartan Parade Banner \$195.00
2. Custom Made Tent Banner \$100.00
3. Custom Made Clan Flag \$29.95
4. Tartan Display Cards (Three Each) \$22.50
5. History and Arms of Muirhead and Morehead (Two Each) \$45.90
6. Muirhead Clan Society Celtic Knotted Thistle Display card \$10.00
7. Map of Scotland Display Card \$5.00
8. MCS Clan Badge, Kilt Pin, Lapel Pin and Sticker display Card \$3.00
9. Affiliate Memberships Display Card \$3.00
10. Membership Application form (Master needed to print copies) hand outs \$1.00
11. MCS Badge Note Card (Master needed to print copies, Conveners use) \$1.00
12. MCS New Member/Info. Card (Master needed to print copies) hand outs \$1.00
13. MCS Info. Handout (Master needed to print copies) hand outs \$1.00

Total \$ 418.35

The Total Cost of the Kit is paid by the Society but must be returned to the Society via Insured mail. If lost or otherwise not returned It will be the Conveners Responsibility to replace or repay the Society.

Please Request the Kit at LEAST 2 Weeks before you need it.

Please give me advance notice of your event that I can put it on our calendar and notify members in your area.

Clan Muirhead Conveners to date in 2004

Council Elder and Convener Bob Morehead will represent us at the Ohio Scottish Games June 26 at the Lorain County Fairgrounds in Wellington.

Conveners David W. Morehead and Co-Conveners Charles and Laura Smith has tentatively advise me of their wish to act as Conveners for the Stone Mountain Games.

Conveners Laura Muirhead Matthew and Lawrence Matthew has tentatively advise me of their wish to act as Conveners for the Arizona area.

Connie and Arnold Frandson of Chadron NE will tentatively represented Clan Muirhead at the 41th Annual Colorado Scottish Festival & Rocky Mountain Highland Games Aug.2004. Last year they and their other 17 family members received best Clan in the Parade of Clans.

Should others of our membership wish to represent the Clan at games and/or festivals in their area please contact me at raymond8@ix.netcom.com

The Scottish Tartans Museum A note from STM

First of all, we now have a section in our gift shop for Historic Clothing patterns. We have begun to carry in our gift shop several Gaelic clothing patterns from Kass McGann, the expert in medieval and Renaissance Irish and Highland Scottish dress that is responsible for the website www.reconstructinghistory.com

We now have available her patterns for the Men's Leine, the Women's Leine, and great historic bog finds such as the Shinrone Gown, the Kilcommon outfit, and the Dungiven outfit, which include trews, doublets, and mantles. Full patterns, historical notes, and all the information you need to recreate your own versions of these outfits are available. Just look for the historic dress patterns in our gift shop menu.

<http://www.scottishtartans.org>

Submitted By Nominated Clan Elder, Laura Muirhead-Matthew

I have been nominated to run for the position of Council Elder within the Muirhead Clan Society. Since most of you don't know me, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Laura Muirhead-Matthew, and I am a founding member of the Society, having been a member since its' inception in September of 1999. I had been researching my "Muirhead" side of the family for several years prior to the formation of the Society, so when it was formed, I could not pass up the chance to join.

I currently reside in Chandler, Arizona (a suburb of Phoenix). Prior to coming to Arizona, I lived in Colorado and I was born in Nebraska. Both of these states boast a large Muirhead population. My husband, Larry, is an attorney with Maricopa County. My children are Marissa, age 18, currently attending the University of Arizona in Tucson, and Luke, age 3, currently enjoying himself at preschool.

I have been with American Express for the last 13 years in the Corporate Travel division of the company. Although I held a management position for 7 of those years, I recently went back to what I truly enjoy and that is simply making travel reservations for our corporate customers.

I would like to see growth in the membership of the Society. To that end, I have let Raymond Morehead know that I'd like to participate in a few of the local Scottish Games and Festivals in my area by representing the Clan Muirhead. I'm also hoping we can get more members to attend the Clan Gathering in Scotland this summer with the Clan Hunter.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Stone of Destiny

Submitted by Clan Elder David Grossett

During a recent visit to the Pacific north-west, during which we had the great pleasure of meeting Raymond and Yen Chi Morehead, my wife, Edna Mae, and I also visited my sister, Betty, and her husband, Andrew Whitelaw, at their home in North Vancouver, British Columbia, to celebrate the 50th anniversary of their wedding in Dundee, Scotland on 20 January 1954.

Among the fifty or so guests at the celebration at the Canadian Legion Hall in West Vancouver that evening was Mr. Gavin Vernon, formerly of Glasgow.

Gavin Vernon was one of four students who participated in the return of the Stone of Destiny from beneath the British throne in the wee hours of Christmas morning in 1950. The others were Ian Hamilton, Kay Mathison and Alex Stuart.

I'd heard previously that Gavin was an acquaintance of Betty and Andy's.

While enjoying a social hour prior to the anniversary dinner and informal ceilidh, Andy pointed Gavin out to me.

I immediately went over to Gavin, and shaking his hand, expressed my admiration for the courage that he and his friends displayed fifty-three years earlier.

With a smile, Gavin simply said, "I'll tell you this much, David; had we been professionals, we would never have succeeded!"

Although I failed to broach the subject with Gavin, who, sadly, became quite ill by the end of that week, I have a strong feeling that Mr. Roland Eugene Muirhead, who might well be described as the father of the Scottish Nationalist Party encouraged this student escapade.

I remember the incident very well - that Christmas I was on leave from my army unit in Frankfurt, Germany and passed through London en route to visit friends in Dundee. Coincidentally, when the stone was recovered at Arbroath Abbey in 1951, I was again back home in Dundee.

I do, however, make no claim as to personal involvement in the act.

"Scotland Forever"

As a former pupil of Arbroath High School I was well aware of the significance of where the stone was found

David Grossett
grossett@earthlink.net

The email included a link to a web page that gave a brief history of the Stone of Destiny. The link is:

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/pages/news/junior/jxa_9.aspx

Thank you, Mr. Grossett!

Recipe for a Happy Life

One cup of confidence,
One cup of Love,
In a pan of Happiness,
Mix the above.
Add a pinch of Tenderness,
A tablespoon of Truth,
Stir well in the sunshine
Roll out a Loving crust,
Flour with Contentment
Keep all free from Strife,
Fill with Understanding
And bake well all your life.

Submitted by a member...



Bettina must have sold a million fish suppers

BETTINA DAWSON, from Moffat, has lived in a flat above the village's fish and chip shop all her life.

"The Moffat Chippy" — as it's known — was opened by her Italian parents, Pasqualina and Antonio Dicerbo, when they first moved to Scotland in 1922.

Just 11 years old when she began helping out doing odd jobs, pretty soon Bettina was serving behind the counter part-time to earn pocket money.

And when she was only 13 her dad insisted she leave school to become a full-time member of the staff working in the chippy seven days a week.

During World War 2 there were barracks near Moffat, yet despite strict orders to eat only Army food, soldiers would sneak to the back door of the takeaway for some more appealing grub.

As she dished out fish suppers, Bettina struck up a friendship with a young squaddie from Huddersfield named George who,

By Kirsten Gray

from then on, would always pay her a visit each time he returned from serving abroad.

Romance blossomed and they were married shortly before the end of the war. George moved into Bettina's family home above the chippy after he was demobbed — out of the line of fire and into the frying pan!

Even becoming pregnant couldn't keep Bettina away from the fryer — she worked right up until a few hours before giving birth to each of their children, Michael and Rosina.

When her mother died 30 years ago, Bettina took over the running of the chippy, yet even being her own boss has never tempted her to slow down.

A few years ago when she fell and fractured her wrist cleaning the windows, she carried on serving with her arm in plaster.

And with the exception of two fortnights a year when Bettina

and George take themselves off for a well-earned holiday, the other 337 days are spent frying.

Given that she can sell anything from 10 to 120 suppers a day, she must have sold more than a million in her career.

According to Bettina, customers come from far and wide to enjoy her fish suppers, which cost £3.50, compared with only sixpence when she first started back in the 1930s.

Ironically, while plenty of pub-goers stop off after closing time, Bettina has never touched a drink or smoked in her life.

But she does admit to one bad habit. She eats chips every day — just to check they're good enough to sell, of course.

And anyone who reckons that too many fries are bad for you might like to think again.

Because despite having lived above a chippy all her life, and worked in it for 69 years, Bettina has no plans to retire — even at the grand age of 80!

ADDED KUDOS

I would also like at this time to congratulate Member Jerome B. Seitz for being elected to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. He now being a Fellow of that Society gains the added honor following his name with Esq. FSA Scot. The Muirhead Clan Society now has four members with this honor.

I would also like to thank all those who so generously donated to the Order of the Saltire fund and remind our members that your gifts and/or donations are tax deductible so please consider donating a gift large or small to the general fund.

Welcome or newest member Philip and Patricia Morehead of Chicago

From the Keeper of the Database

The updated Clan Database currently contains over 42,000 individuals! We always welcome additions, updates or corrections to the database, even those "orphan families" you may find during research! Every contribution aids us in completing this huge Muirhead/Muirheid/Morehead/Moorhead/Moorehead puzzle!

The updated database is available for download from the Clan Muirhead Web site. The file is quite large and if you would prefer, I will email you just the family line you would like. I can also email you the file in different versions of FTM or Gedcom. I can be reached at clanmuirhead@aol.com.

I currently have access to online census documents and will gladly do searches for you. Just email me the name and any other information you may have on the individual you are looking for and I will do my best to help. It doesn't need to be a Muirhead/Morehead family line!

REMINDER!!!!

Please remember to turn in your voting ballots. These are due no later than 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time, April 5th. Also please remember that your name and/or email address **MUST** be on the ballot form so we know who voted. If you have any questions, you may call Clan Chief Elect directly.