



# The Buchanan Banner

Clan Buchanan Society in America, Inc.

1055 Bradley Road

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Westlake, OH 44145

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Clanfolk:



It is said that after seven centuries of raiding, the Danes under Swein the Fork Beard, took control of most of England and Ireland about 1013-1014. His son, Canute, was to become King of England. Accordingly, Swein ordered celebrations to be held in Limerick, Western Ireland, and instructions were given for 1000 beautiful daughters of Irish nobility to be present. In their stead, the same number of Irish youths were dispatched disguised in women's habits (with long Irish scains below their cloaks). A massacre of the Danes followed. One of these youths was Anselan Buey Okyan, son of the King of the fourth part of Ulster. In 1016 as a result of his participation in this exploit he fled Ireland to Argyll, Scotland. Either by marriage or as a reward for services rendered to King Malcolm II of Scotland, Anselan aquired lands of Lennox. In addition Anselan was granted Arms practically identical to those used by the Society (of Glasgow) today.

All records of Irish insignia have long since disappeared. BUCHANAN is possibly derived from three sources; from the Gaelic Boghchanon, "low ground belonging to the Canon", Mac a Chanonaich, "Son of the Canon", or a simpler derivation is the development of Buey Okyan into BUCHANAN.

Clan BUCHANAN participated in its share of blood letting. In 1314 its fighting men supported King Robert the Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn. It is claimed that Sir Alexander Buchanan killed the Duke of Clarence (English), at the Battle of Bauge in 1421. The Chief and many Clansmen died at Flodden in 1513. The Clan took part in the battles of

Pinkie in 1547 and Langside in 1568. It is noted that during the second Jacobite Rebellion in 1745, the Clan remained loyal to the Crown.

The succession from Anselan was uninterrupted to John Buchanan, the 22nd Laird, who married and left two daughters. He died in 1681, the title "Of that Ilk" expired the same year. The lands were purchased by the Duke of Montrose, who built BUCHANAN castle. The castle burned down in 1850. A claim was laid for Chiefship in 1878, but the applicant's grandson died without issue in 1919. Since then the Chiefship has lain dormant.

These are but "bits and pieces" drawn from the annals of the history of the Clan BUCHANAN, there is, of course, much more. For example, did you know that one George Buchanan (Latin Scholar, Humanist and Reformer), was tutor to Mary Queen of Scots, and to her son, James VI of Scotland who became King James I of England (the first of the Stuart line)? It was on his instructions that in 1611 scholars wrote a new translation of the Holy Bible . . . The King James Version! Interesting stuff.

I sincerely hope that this issue of the BANNER will find all of you well. Till we meet in person again, I am,

Yours Aye,

Harold T. "Hal" Townend  
Ceann Cath



## To the Haggis

By Lynn Gibson

The British Medical Journal, a weekly publication famous for its science but little known for whimsy, has broken ground in both fields.

In a recent issue, the Journal carried a report on the health effects of haggis. The researchers concluded that Scots should continue to eat it, in spite of its high fat and salt content. Whether foreigners should do so was left unclear, but the authors suggested that "the haggis tolerance test may be useful." The scientists described their work modestly as "illconceived and badly designed, but brilliantly executed." Conforming with current standard practices, they (Continued on page 6)



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# The Buchanan Banner of Clan Buchanan Society in America, Inc.

## PURPOSE

*The purpose of this organization is to foster and promote understanding and good fellowship among 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 the Clan Buchanan; to foster and promote the Society by initiating goals and objectives consistent with our heritage and the desires of the membership.*

The **Buchanan Banner**, published quarterly, is distributed to Society members as a benefit of membership. Non-member single copy price \$4.00.

Anyone who can establish a reasonable presumption of descent through either the male or female line from an ancestor of Scottish origin who bore the surname **Buchanan** or a recognized sept name, is eligible for membership in the **Clan Buchanan Society in America, Inc.** and is invited to join. Annual dues - Individual/\$10.00, Family/\$20.00, Sponsor (5 years)/\$45.00, or Life Membership \$125.00.

Contributions of stories, articles and pictures of interest of Society members are invited for publication in the **Buchanan Banner**. Material must be received at least six weeks before our scheduled distribution dates of the first of each January, April, July, October, and will be published as space permits.

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## **Help - Within the Regions**

I would like to **thank** everyone for all the positive phone calls and letters. All Commissioners will soon receive a letter outlining your responsibilities, for your comments.

As you can see we need a few good clan-persons to help fill our vacant positions. Also, I need all to assist me with phone numbers and corrections to any errors I have made - Sorry.

**Wes Gibson**

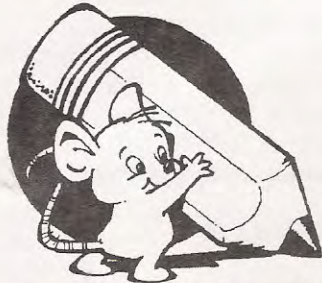


# Editor's Corner

By Lynn S. Gibson

Hello Clansfolk!

Here we are once again, flying into our busy games season. Days filled



with sunshine and billowy clouds, (hopefully), and lots of wonderful entertainment, good food and the renewing of old friendships and the creation of new ones. It's truly exhilarating to think about all the upcoming activities.

Since becoming Editors of the **Buchanan Banner**, Wes and I have openly and earnestly solicited input from our readership for new ideas, comments, suggestions and criticisms. All have been gratefully appreciated, as always. One of our Clansfolk, not only came up with a great idea for a new column, but, actually wrote it! **George S. (Buck) Buchanan**, our 1st Vice President of Clan Buchanan, submitted has idea for a "Cross Talk" column. Please see page 15 for the results of his efforts. Thanks so much, George. It's folks like yourself that keep the **Banner** interesting for our readers! We certainly welcome all ideas! Please keep the brain juices flowing and send all new ideas to us! Thanks again to all who contributed!

Yours in Clanship,

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## ADVERTISING



Hopefully, you have noticed a dramatic change in our **Buchanan Banner** this issue! The changes will continue - until it's the best clan newsletter published in America.

To offset our publication cost we have decided to offer advertisements in the **Banner** - the cost is right.

**Rates (per issue) are as follows:**

Full Page	35.00
Half Page	20.00
Quarter Page	10.00
Eighth Page	5.00
Business Card	5.00

Now I would like to see a flood of business cards come in with five dollar bills to help our cause. Let everyone know that you care and that you are proud to be a part of the **Buchanan Banner**.

Mail your advertisements to:

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601 Queensgrove Crescent  
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## To the Haggis (Continued from page 1)

said, the project used only statistical tests that produced significant results.

Each of the six expatriate Scots and 10 Sassenachs ate 200 grams of haggis for breakfast, with fruit juice "to help swallowing", but whisky was withheld until the end of the study. The volunteers' blood was tested periodically for fat content after eating. The tests indicated that within 90 minutes of the meal, the level of certain blood fats rose sharply in the Sassenachs. But the Scots seemed resistant, the researchers said, adding that "the reasons are now the subject of intense speculation."

"The Scot who showed the greatest postprandial fall in triglyceride concentration spent the interval between the 30 and 90 minute samples performing cardiac surgery, which suggests that this may have a protective effect." "But the practice of cardiac surgery could hardly be advocated as a mass preventive measure."

The authors speculated that Scots may have evolved a genetic tolerance to haggis and that this might be implemented by "autoregulation of intestinal haggis receptors (should they exist or derepression of alternative catabolic pathways for haggis)".

"Ethical approval was not sought, and informed consent could not be obtained as so little is known about the consequences of eating haggis," the scientists noted, adding, "There was no control group because we deemed it unethical to withhold haggis from any subject."

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## Scottish Proverbs

*Lift me up and I'll tell you more.*

A stranger came upon this line carved on a great stone in a moor. He gathered a number of local helpers to help him turn over the stone, and expecting to find treasure, paid them all handsomely. His helpers laughed knowingly when, on the other side of the stone, there appeared the line:

*Lay me doon as I was before.*

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## Helpful Hints for Genealogists

Submitted by Wes Gibson

The last issue of the **Buchanan Banner** had the first of a series of articles that will address "Finding Your Roots".

During the late Middle Ages in Scotland because of infant mortality it was not uncommon to give two or even three brothers the *same* first name. It's possible to trace a family line back to a James Campbell and then find there were three in the family. One might also find the Campbells were really MacDonalds or Frasers, for it was a common practice back then to change surnames with every change of residence in order "to please the laird." Additionally, until the last century many good Scottish wives did not take their husband's surname on marriage but retained their own - remnant of an even order custom in which men took their wives' surnames after marriage.

It would make family tree tracing a lot easier if our last names were distinctive, and spelled the same way our ancestors spelled them hundreds of years ago, but that probably isn't so.

In England, for instance, most records were kept by churchmen - and they were sometimes kept in Latin, sometimes in Norman French, and finally, toward the end of the Middle Ages, in English. The result was wide variation in spellings of family names, sometimes even on the same piece of paper. In one 1623 document described by English genealogist L. G. Pine, the name Pierce was spelled Peirs, Pearce, and Peers - all on the same page.

Of course, it wasn't always officialdom that mutilated your ancestors' names. Sometimes your clansmen did it to themselves. I have found the name "Gibson" spelled - Gibbeson, Gybbessone, Gibsoun, Gibsone, Gibsoun, Gibsonne, Gybson, Gypsone, Gybsoun, Gipson, Gipsone, Gipsoun, - get the idea??

And for some complex spellings, your most recent family baptism may have been at the hands of United

States immigration officials who couldn't understand your name and so changed the spelling completely or gave up and changed the name into the nearest English sound.

Because of this lack of standardization, there are now thirteen versions of Smith, thirty-one different Snyder spellings, thirty-seven ways to write Burke, and forty-six ways of spelling Baer.

Knowing different possible spelling of your name is important, because otherwise you could miss another branch of your family tree. The information will be helpful when you begin your search through public records. The real challenge, of course, is figuring out what these different spellings are. Here are some tips:

1. Sit down and list every possible spelling you can think of.
2. Say your name out loud, and see if this brings to mind other possibilities.
3. List the way other people frequently mispronounce your name - you can be sure that somewhere on your family tree it is spelled that way.
4. Next try pronouncing your name several different ways - for example, "Ride" for Reid.

While at first it might seem that making a list of all the possible spelling variations would make your ancestor hunt more difficult rather than less, actually it will not. After all, you will not be searching for a name alone but a name coupled with a birthdate or a birthplace or both.

When you have listed the possible spelling for your family name, you may also want to check them in a surname encyclopedia to discover their origin and probable meaning. They will help convey the fascination and adventure that you will encounter as you search for your family roots.

Millions of Americans are descended from the 250,000 Scotch-Irish immigrants who came to America between 1717 and 1775. These people were actually transplanted lowland Scots who, in one of many English schemes to subdue the Irish, had been urged to emigrate to Ulster in Northern Ireland a century earlier by James I. It was thought that hard-nosed Presbyterian Scotsmen could better con-

trol the Irish than England's standing army, but by 1717 the Scotch-Irish were in trouble themselves. A depression in the flax industry, higher rents, severe frosts, a sheep disease, and a smallpox epidemic scourged Ulster.

They emigrated in waves to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, the Piedmont country of North Carolina, to New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, New Hampshire, Maine, and Pennsylvania. By the time the Declaration of Independence was written, one out of every ten Americans was Scotch-Irish.

The Scotch-Irish brought an ethnic personality well fitted to westward-moving pioneers: they were religious, stubborn, and moral. After discovering that the prime land along the eastern seaboard had been taken by earlier arrivals, they quickly fanned out toward the Appalachians. Their sons and daughters were in the forefront of the western migration of each succeeding generation.

### Scottish Sources of Information:

Unlike England and Ireland, the Scots have gathered together all their parish registers in one place.

*Birth, Marriage, and Death Records.* The Registrar General, New Register House, Princess Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3YT.

*Probate Records.* At the Scottish Record office, H. M. Registrar House, Princess Street, Edinburgh, EH1 3YX are indexes of wills, deeds, and other legal documents that may be extracted for a fee.

*Census Records.* Census returns for the years 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891 are available. Application forms can be obtained from the Registrar General, New Register House, EH1 3YT.

*Miscellaneous Sources.* For further aids in hunting your Scottish forebears you should contact the Scots Ancestry Research Society (20 York Place, Edinburgh, EH1 3EP), a non-profit organization that will help you with your research for a fee. The maximum charge for tracing one line is about \$40. The Society also publishes a quarterly, **The Scottish Genealogist**, and maintains a list of knowledgeable genealogists who will research your family in Scotland.

## Southwestern Region

### Phoenix, Arizona Highland Games - 4 March 1989

By Wolf-Dieter Klose

What a beautiful day for the Highland games in Phoenix, Arizona. The temperature was 79 and the sky was clear.

We had lots of help this year from Mrs. Jana Buchanan and Jennifer Caley and family. I want to thank both lassies. Jennifer is the current convener for Central Arizona and is learning Scottish dancing.

Ten pipe bands were present at the games and it was a great day for all clans especially Clan Buchanan.



Wolf-Dieter Klose - 4 March 1989

## Central and South Pacific Region

### Hawaiian Highland Gathering - 1 April 1989

By LtCol Dick S. Clack

To the right is a picture of myself and Doug Gibb, Chief of the Honolulu Police Department just

before our Scottish Heritage Week Parade and a video of the parade is available. Doug was Grand Marshall for the parade and, as you will see in the video, I was the last marcher. Extra Copies are available from John at \$10 each. The funds go to pay for a portion of our monthly events.

The kick-off was on 23 March when the Governor of Hawaii issued a Proclamation establishing the week of March 26-April 1 as Scottish Heritage Week. Later that day I made the Mayor of Honolulu, the Honorable Frank F. Fasi, an Honorary member of the Clan Buchanan.

On Sunday, our Clansman John Murchison appeared as guest chef on a statewide TV show. He was on for approximately 30 minutes showing how to make haggis and prepare other recipes in our Clan Buchanan Cookbook.

Beginning the 24th, we had information booths in every major shopping center on the Island of Oahu. On the 25th, we had a 15 minute portion of a statewide radio show to promote Scottish Heritage. On Monday we had a demonstration of Scottish athletics at our largest shopping center, the Ala Moana. Tuesday was more television, radio coverage and shopping center activity. On Wednesday, six of us went to the High Schools to teach the senior class members subjects relating to Scottish Heritage. At sunset that evening, some of us gathered at the tomb of Princess Kai'ulani for a memorial service to underlin the rich heritage of our mixed Scottish-Hawaiian citizens. The Princess was half Scottish and educated in Britain. She was a great friend of Robert Lewis Stevenson and the two were often visiting at her mansion, Ainahou,

which is now Waikiki. The ceremony with Scots, Hawaiians and Scottish-Hawaiians was very moving as Pipers played her favorite hymns.

Saturday, 1 April, we held the Games. Thanks to many sponsors, there was no admission charge and over 6,000 people attended. The events were fairly standard. We had five bands, four were from overseas. Judges for pipng, dancing etc., were from Canada and Scotland.

Members of our Clan played a major role in every event, which made me particularly proud of them. My daughter Meiling came from her home in Tokyo to assist. I have appointed John Murchison Convener for the Island of Oahu, and he reported several Buchanan visitors including two from Scotland. His report will be filed soon. Meanwhile, we will be working to establish Convenors on the neighbor Islands.

The State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu were so pleased with our results that we have agreed to hold Scottish Heritage week annually on the week preceeding the first Saturday in April. Ten pipe bands have already committed to attend in 1990.



Left to Right: Douglas Gibb, Chief of Honolulu Police Department; Bruce McEwan, Chieftan Caledonian Society of Hawaii; LtCol Dick S. Clack, State of Hawaii Regent.



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## Great Lakes Region

### The Lansing (MI) Burn Celebration - 18th Year

By Duane L. Gibson

The Clan MacNeil, once again, for the 18th year, sponsored the Lansing (MI) Burns Celebration. The largest Scottish affair of its kind in Michigan, some 350 people turned out to "Toast the Tartans," participate in the Haggis Ceremony (and later share in its consumption and that of other appropriate comestibles), view Scottish dancing, and listen to the Glen Erin Pipe Band, with its stirring rendition, among other tunes, of the Skye Boat Song, Amazing Grace (in which we all joined in and sang the words), and, of course, Scotland the Brave (that



Nancy and Duane L. Gibson, Jr.

one not once, but twice, to the delight of all).

Of course, it helped to make the evening complete, at least for me, to have my daughter-in-law, Nancy Gibson (wearing the kilt of Clan Nesbitt), win possession, for the next year, of the curling stone that entitles the temporary owner to custody of the prize for the coming year, and a free ticket to next year's celebration. Discovering how much it weighed made her happy that my strapping son was present to assure it (and her) a safe trip home.

Perhaps I should note, in passing, that my son, Duane L. Gibson, Jr., has very recently agreed to be the Great Lakes Commissioner for the Clan Buchanan. (I had expected that the day would eventually arrive when our roles would be reversed and I'd be taking orders from him, but I hadn't thought it would be quite this soon!)

## Navigation Hazard

One of the most treacherous of whirlpools is *Corryvreckan*, located off the west coast of Scotland in a narrow channel between the islands of Jura and Scarba. The British Admiralty publication *West Coast of Scotland Pilot* offers a sharp warning: "The navigation is at times most hazardous, and no stranger would under any circumstances be justified in attempting it."

Even sailors with local knowledge sometimes get into trouble here. In 1951 a Glasgow engineer and three companions had a harrowing experience while attempting to cross from Jura to the Scottish mainland. Some distance from the shore the engine of their motor cruiser, *Dewey Red*, had to be shut down when a water pump stopped. As the engineer worked to repair the damage, the vessel drifted into the swiftly flowing tidal race between Jura and Scarba. Everyone onboard had to escape in a dinghy. Somehow they reached slack water.

But the *Dewey Red* was not so fortunate - she went to her doom into the whirlpool of Corryvreckan. Apart from one small cask bobbing in the

water, no trace of her was ever seen again.

Despite all the knowledge that has been gained about whirlpools and how they work, no way of combating them as yet has been discovered. Today it seems ironic to think that something so powerful could provide the basis for a relaxing bath.

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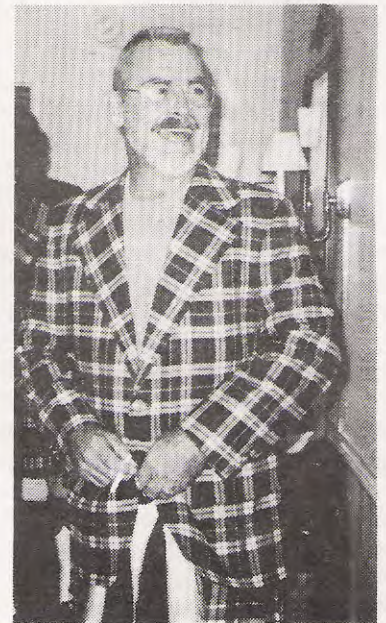
## Southeast Atlantic Region

### Orlando Highland Games

By Joyce M. Pidgeon

We went to the Orlando Games early in order to spend three days in Epcot. What a great time we had. The weather was just perfect and the place was not too crowded.

At the games the weather continued to be excellent. It seemed to be more crowded than last year. We were very pleased to have Jack Bailey to help and Carla Masterson helped us again also. We took in three new members. Quite a few signed in and wanted to know when the next Banner would be out. We would like to know, also, as we like to make our reservations for Grandfather's Mountain early.



Proud of his tartan - Jim Harper of the Buchanan Pipes and Drums.

# Clan Mail



## Buchanan Society Gathering 1990

By Hal Townend  
President

An opportunity has presented itself for this Society to hold a gala gathering in conjunction with the Santa Rosa, California, Highland Games and Gathering of the Clans in 1990. The following is an extraction from a letter received from the Caledonian Club of San Francisco.

"... In 1865 a small band of expatriate Scotsmen banded together and organized a Scottish Gathering and Games in San Francisco. Out of these games was born the Caledonian Club of San Francisco which was incorporated in 1871. These games have now become the oldest continuous (and now) largest in the USA - perhaps the world. The year 1990 will see our 125th Jubilee.

We intend to commence our celebrations in January of that year and continue through to "Scottish Heritage Week" in August. One of the major events of the year will be a well organized INTERNATIONAL GATHERING OF THE CLANS. Even although we have not yet published our program, approximately 600 hotel rooms have already been booked in the Santa Rosa area.

Scottish Heritage Week will commence with a Gala Ball in San Francisco on August 25th. On Sunday August 26 there will be a Kirkin' o' the Tartans service held in San Francisco's Grace Cathedral. The 125th annual Gathering and Games will be held in Santa Rosa commencing

ing August 31 through September 2 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)...

1990 is also the year OUR Society will mark its 20th anniversary! Sure seems like we ought to take advantage of this extravaganza, and hold OUR Annual General Meeting AND some special activities just for US, in the Santa Rosa/San Francisco area that year.

To this end I have asked our 1st Vice President, Steve (Buck) Buchanan to chair a fact finding/organizing committee. To the right you will find a "preliminary questionnaire" slip which I hope you will complete and forward to Buck at your earliest convenience. The information that you provide will give us an indication of the size, type, and location of the Clan Buchanan Society headquarters for this unique event. There is no obligation on your part at this time, but we do need an expression of interest. In the next issue of the BANNER we will let you know the extent of the response and provide a preview of the plans being made.

With two years to orchestrate this event we will be able to plan a quality and festive occasion, which will give all of us plenty of time to prepare for and to look forward to!!

Please let us hear from you, and thanks.

**SECOND NOTICE - PLEASE MAIL NOW!!**

YES \_\_\_ I (we) support the idea of a Clan Buchanan Society gathering to be held in conjunction with the Santa Rosa INTERNATIONAL event in 1990.

Allowing that I (we) can attend, there would be \_\_\_ adults, and \_\_\_ children (please give age/s) at time of games) \_\_\_ in our party, and we would require (indicate type of room/s, double, single, king, suite) \_\_\_\_\_

I (we) would need lodging for \_\_\_ nights.

I (we) would attend the games "Tattoo" on the Friday. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

I (we) would attend the games on Saturday and Sunday. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

I (we) would attend the Society's Annual General Meeting and dinner on Saturday evening. YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO:  
LTC George S. Buchanan  
330 Vine Street  
Vacaville, CA 95688



## A Taste of Scotland



### Black Cake

This recipe is excellent and will keep for a long time. Black cake is most satisfactory for its keeping qualities, as it will improve with age if kept in air-tight tins.

- 1 lb. Powdered White Sugar
- 3/4 lb. Butter
- 4 c. Flour
- 12 Eggs (whites and yolks beaten separately)
- 2 lbs. Seeded raisins, chopped
- 2 lbs. Currants
- 1/2 lb. Citron (cut in thin strips)
- 1/4 oz. each Cinnamon, Cloves, and Nutmeg, mixed
- 1 Wineglass Wine
- 1 Wineglass Brandy

Rub butter and sugar together, add the beaten yolks of eggs, part of the flour, then the spice and the white of eggs, well beaten. Add the remainder of the flour, wine and brandy. Mix all together thoroughly. Cover bottom and sides of a 4-quart pan with buttered white paper. Put in a layer of the mixture, then a layer of the fruit which has been previously dredged with flour, alternating and using batter for last layer. Bake in a slow oven for 3 1/2 to 4 hours.

# Clan Service Directory

The Clan Service Directory is a new service section of the Buchanan Banner. The Clan Service Directory will provide our readers the ability to list notes to your spouse and friends (Birthdays, Births, and etc.), items for sale or trade, Genology Seach, and etc.

**Rates:** First 20 words \$10.00 (Minimum), Words over 20, \$.30 a word. No charge for name and address/phone number.

Genealogical ads (Searching for Scottish ancestors): First 20 words \$4.00 (Minimum). Each additional words \$.10.

**Terms:** Payment with order. A phone number and street address must accompany each ad even though they do not appear in the ad. Send all orders to:

**Buchanan Banner  
Clan Service Directory  
601 Queensgrove Crescent  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452**

Ads must be received at least six weeks before our scheduled distribution dates of the first of each January, April, July, and October.

Prices quoted from advertisers outside the United States are subject to U. S. Customs regulations.

**Please type or print in block letters.**

*Sample Article Headings:*

**ARTICLES FOR SALE/TRADE**

**WANT TO BUY**

**BOOKS**

**HIGHLAND PRODUCTS**

# Cross Talk

by George S. Buchanan

For the last few years I've been wondering why we don't have a column dedicated to increasing communication among members, especially among conveners. I thought "someone" ought to write a column which dealt with problems or situations that are somewhat common to us all and how we handled them. I also know that there are a lot of innovative members out here who could share their ideas with the rest of us. If they would share their ideas on what they have done, what has worked and what has not, the rest of us, and the Society, would benefit by their experience.

Well this morning, I finally found that "someone" to write such a column. He was staring back at me in the mirror while I was shaving. This column, which I've called "Cross Talk" will be in each issue of the **Buchanan Banner**, space permitting, and if you care enough for it to send me your ideas and suggestions. I want this to be your avenue of communication to the rest of the members.

I'll start off this first column with an idea from **Robert M. Kinniburgh**, our regent for **Oklahoma**. Bob sent me his business card he designed and uses at Scottish Games, Gatherings, etc. The card is reproduced on page 14. The card is twice as long as a standard business card and he folds it in the middle. This now gets it down to normal size. The front is standard, with the Clan Crest, the name of the Society, his name, etc., but when you unfold the card you see the list of the Septs of Clan Buchanan. I like the idea and maybe some of you might want to copy it.

The next idea I'll share concerns flag pole holders. The tent we use in **Northern California** is a dining fly type, and we used to tape our flag poles to the tent poles. This posed a problem when we wanted to take the flags down so they could be carried in the parade of the Clans and when we closed down for the night. The solution we came up with was PVC pipe. Cut a two foot section of one inch, schedule 40, PVC pipe, glue an end



Buchanan Lassies at Alexandria Christmas Walk party.

cap on one end, and tape the pipe to the tent pole. Now you can slip the flag pole in or out of the PVC pipe any time you need to. In the next column I'll tell how to make a PVC flag stand for indoor use.

If you've got a problem that you would like some help on, or ideas on how to solve it, send it to me, I'll pass it along in this column. I'll leave you with an example of a problem, one that has been vexing me for some time. What do you say to people who tell you that they are direct descendants of President Buchanan? I don't want to embarrass them if they have been told that, and really believe they are. They may just be testing to see how much we know about Buchanan history. I don't know what their reason may be but, I do know that I'm at our tent to make friends and recruit new members, not to embarrass, insult or argue with visitors. Anybody have any suggestions?

Well, I think that will be all for now. If you like this idea for a column write and let me know. If you have something you'd like to share, please pass that along also and I'll include it as soon as I can, space permitting. My address is 330 Vine Street, Vacaville, CA 95688.

## The Convener

By John Watson

I believe it is safe to say that the large majority of clan members were recruited at a Festival, Gathering or Game by an energetic, knowledgeable, friendly and interested Clan Convener.

As Commissioner of the Mid Atlantic Region, I attend at least eight games a year and have, on those occasions, observed the conveners of clan tents for at least fifty different clans. What have I learned?

The lifeblood of the Clan flows from the convening tent. I'm reminded of one clan tent whose conveners were amazed at the number of people who stopped at the Buchanan tent. The man of the husband and wife team collared me at closing time and said "I wouldn't have believed there were that many Buchanans here today. I hardly spoke to anyone." Well, it was no wonder, he rarely left his seat and never came out from behind his table to greet anyone. He was further surprised when I told him that most of the people I talked to were not Buchanans.

It is true that a crowd draws a crowd. While you may not want to spend a great deal of time on "foreigners", good publicity never hurts and you never know what you may turn up in reviewing a person's lineage.

The potential member must be made to feel special; he is special - he's a Buchanan! Is \$10.00 such a great amount to spend to be a member of a family-type group? That is the cost of one movie for two people. The potential member must, where possible, be urged to take part in Clan or Scottish activities. The more they participate, the more they learn and the greater the benefit. Every clan member should, at some time or other, at least assist at a clan tent on a games day. There is no better way to meet your "family" or learn about this novel group called a clan.

The conveners in the Mid Atlantic region will all be receiving a comprehensive guide on how to convene a tent at a Game. Included will be ideas picked up from some of our own Buchanan conveners, such as Lavon and Donna Watson from Mid Atlantic, Gay French and Jo Andrews from the North Atlantic Region. With my impending retirement, I hope to visit more regions and pick up new ideas.

## The Conveners Idea List

A. Prepare packets of new member materials ahead of time so that signing up a new member is quick and easy.

1. Large brown envelope containing:

- a. Buchanan patch
- b. Copy of the by-laws
- c. Buchanan Banner
- d. Application (for friend or family)
- e. Story of the Buchanans
- f. Paper on Highland dress
- g. Buchanan cross-stitch pattern
- h. Name badge (plastic with Buchanan Ribbon)
- i. Anything you think appropriate

2. Make joining an experience. Take a picture of new members for a scrapbook and the Buchanan Banner.

B. Contact other Buchanans to help you convene. Ask them to be there in time to help you set up the tent and/or table.

1. Set up tent (if not done)
2. Set up table (use Buchanan cloth)
3. Use materials from your regent box
4. Don't put all materials on display - use samples.
5. Guard the books, maps, and saleables from theft.
6. Raise the Banner over the tent
7. Keep new member packets handy.
8. Bring lawn chairs.
9. Light refreshments are welcome by visiting clan members.
10. Some conveners announce an area picnic at the clan tent for lunch time.

11. Be sure to complete all applications and registrations carefully and send all monies and all new and renewing members names to the secretary. A report to the State Regent is also helpful should the secretary's list should get lost.

12. A clan sign and sept poster large enough to attract passersby is essential. Have a visitor's sign-in sheet for clan members. A list of the names and addresses of people who only take applications should go to the secretary for future contacts.

C. Select your representative for the Parade of Tartans and your team(s) for other special events. The convener alone select the standard bearer. The convener may carry the banner if he or she so chooses.

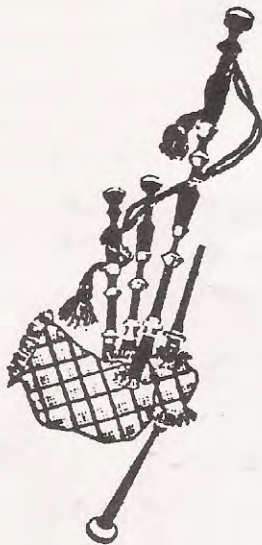
D. Most games have a prize for the most attractive clan tent set-up.

E. Take a short break and leave others in charge so they get their feet wet.

F. A special table for signing up memberships is advisable at large games; i.e., Grandfather Mountain, etc.

G. If you have a picture album of people and activities of prior years, have it available for all to look at.

**Bring Forrit the Tartan  
UP THE BUCHANAN  
By John S. Watson  
Mid Atlantic Commissioner**



**Flash!!**

**GREAT NEWS**

**Flash!!**

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Here is some important, money-saving information for any, and all who plan to attend the Scottish Gathering and Games to be held in

Santa Rosa in 1989 and 1990. I have just been informed that Pan America World Airways is offering a 40% discount on its round trip coach fares to San Francisco from any U. S. city that Pan Am serves.

If you plan to come to either or both Santa Rosa Gatherings, call Pan Am's toll number (1-800-327-1600), ask for a convention reservations agent, and make your reservation, giving her the proper convention number. The convention numbers are: for 1989 use CVN 39079; for next year (1990) use CVN 30080.

The only restrictions, that I know of, are; you must travel between the following inclusive dates: August 25 to September 10, 1989; and/or August 24 to September 9, 1990.

We, in California, would like to have you join us this year if you can make it, but, most definitely, join us next year for the 125th anniversary of the Santa Rosa Gathering and Games. Please let me know if you plan (or will try) to make either or both events, so I can arrange lodging.

**George S. Buchanan  
330 Vine Street  
Vacaville, CA 95688**

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## Speaking of Scots

**Eftermess** - A dessert.

**Dublar** - A large wooden platter.

**Flichen** - Anything very small.

**Gnipper For Gnopper** - A term used to express the sound made by a mill grinding.

**Mapamound** - A map of the world.

**Messin** - A small dog.

**Penny-Wedding** - A wedding at which the guests pay some money for their entertainment.

**Reck-Hen** - A hen fed in the house.

**Raiss** - A strong current in the sea.



# COMING EVENTS



## MAY 1989

**6-14** Fourth Scottish International Gathering, Inverness, Scotland; information from Mrs. Jean Slessor, Director, Inverness, Loch Ness and Naim Tourist Board, 23 Church Street, Inverness IV1.

**6** Savannah Highland Games, Savannah, GA; P.O. Box 13435, Savannah 31416; (912) 352-9959.

**12-14** Kentucky Scottish Weekend, General Butler State Resort Park, Carrolton; contact P.O. Box 58615, Louisville, KY 40258

**13** 2nd Annual Rio Grande Valley Celtic Festival and Games, Albuquerque, NM; Mrs. Olive Bell, Rt. 3, Box 3022-B, Albuquerque 87120

**19-21** Gatlinburg Scottish Festival and Games; P.O. Box 1487, Gatlinburg, TN 37738; (800) 822-1998

**20** 27th Annual Colonial Highland Gathering, Fair Hill, MD; Wm. E. Whisler, 2614 Darby Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808; (302) 994-0134

**20-21** British Isles Festival, Oatlands Plantation, Leesburg, VA 22075; M. Sheehan, Rt. 2, Box 352, Leesburg.

**27-28** Scottish Society Games, Costa Mesa, CA; (805) 497-1822.



## JUNE 1989

**3** Glasgow Games, Glasgow, KY; P.O. Box 373, Glasgow 42141; (502) 651-8282.

**3** McHenry Festival, near Oakland, MD.

**3** Milwaukee Highland Games; Thomas Curtis, 758 E. Day Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53217; (414) 964-7204.

**4** Highland Festival Day, Havre de Grace, MD. Steppingstone Museum, 461 Quaker Bottom Road, Havre de Grace 21078.

**4** Highland Gathering, Genesee Country Museum, Mumford, NY; Charles Hutchinson, 195 Blake Hill Road, East Aurora, NY 14052.

**10** 4th Annual Scottish Games at Bonnie Brae, Mullington, NJ 07946; (201) 647-0800.

**10** Kansas Highland Games, Kansas City, MO; Billy McDonald, 402 Redwood Drive, Wamego, KS 66547; (913) 456-2388.

**17** Delco Scottish Games, Devon, PA; William Reid, Jr., (215) 825-4381.

**24** Ohio Scottish Games, Oberlin, OH; P.O. Box 3, Lorain, OH 44052.

**24** Tidewater Scottish Festival, Norfolk, VA; P.O. Box 2000, Virginia Beach, VA 23452.

**24-25** Aurora Highland Games, Aurora, CO; Greg Bradshaw, 14426 E. Wyoming Place, Aurora, CO 80012.



## JULY 1989

**8-9** Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, Linwood, NC; P.O. Box 1676, Johnson City, TN 37605.

**8** Athena Caledonian Games, Athena, OR; Caledonian Games Ass'n., jP.O. Box 161, Athena 97813.

**15** 3rd Annual Indiana Highland Games, Aollner Stadium, Fort Wayne, IN; Robert Downing, 7020 Salge Dr., Ft. Wayne 46815.

**22-23** Virginia Scottish Games, Alexandria, VA; P.O. Box 1338, Alexandria 22313.

**28-29** Pacific Northwest Highland Games, King County Fairgrounds, Enumclaw, WA; Debra Jenkins, 5640 Sleater-Kinney Rd., Olympia, WA 98506; (206) 491-6697.



## AUGUST 1989

**5-6** 22nd Scottish Festival and Highland Games, Monterey, CA; County Fairgrounds; Roderick Mackay, 948 Via Verde, Del Rey Oaks, CA 93940; (408) 899-3864.

**5** Alaskan Scottish Highland Games, Eagle River, AK; Joan Morgan, P.O. Box 240145 Anchorage, AK 99524.

**12** Central New York Scottish Games, Liverpool, NY; Helen Starr, 4155 Forest Brook Drive, Liverpool, NY 13088.

## AUGUST 1989 (CONT'D)

12-13 Rocky Mountain Games, Golden, CO; Jo Strother, 1939 So. Quebec Way, No. E-501, Denver, CO 80231.

19 11th Annual Maine Highland Games, Thomas Point Beach, Brunswick, ME; Rev. William P. Taylor, 10 Pleasant St., Randolph, ME 04345; (207) 582-2243.

26 Quechee Scottish Festival, Quechee, VT; Scotland-by-the-Yard, Quechee 05059.



## SEPTEMBER 1989

1-3 Santa Rosa Games, Santa Rosa, CA; Caledonian Club of San Francisco; Jerry Jardine, 900 Broderick, NO. 11, SF 94115.

2 Capitol District Scottish Games, Altamont, NY; Dr. Robert Alexander, 69 Murray Ave., Delmar, NY 12054.

2 Dallas Highland Games; Scottish Society of Dallas, P.O. Box 850423, Richardson, TX 75085.

9 Ligonier Highland Games, Idlewild Park, Ligonier, PA; David L. Peet, Box 13037, Pittsburgh, PA 15243.

9 Central California Scottish Games, Fresno; Susan Kerr, P.O. Box 4634, Fresno 93744.

23 Oklahoma Scottish Games & Gathering.

30 Williamsburg Scottish Festival, Jamestown Festival Park, VA; P.O. Box 866, Williamsburg, VA 23187.

# The Lighter Side Humor

WHY is Jack the Nickname for John? Believe it or not, a whole book has been written on this subject: *The Pedigree of Jack and of Various Allied Names* by E. W. B. Nicholson (Don't look for it in your bookstore; it was published in 1892).

The history of Jack as a pet name for John is a long and tangled one, as these things usually are. Most people assume that Jack is derived from the French Jacques, and that Jack should therefore be short for James rather than John. Nicholson debunked this notion, claiming that there is no record example of Jack ever being used to represent Jacques or James.

Jack is actually derived from the name Johannes, which was shortened to Jehan and eventually to Jan. The French were fond of tacking the suffix -kin onto many short names. French nasalization resulted in the new combination being pronounced Jackin instead of Jankin. The name Jackin wa shortend to Jack. The Scottish version, Jock, was a similar contraction of Jon and -kin.

By the fourteenth century, Jack had become a synonym for *man* or *boy*, and later was also used as a slang name for sailors (thus the Jack in Cracker Jack).

In the mid-nineteenth century, Jack became popular as a Christian name, and it remained so until its use peaked in the 1920's. At that point, the diminutive Jackie became popular, propelled by child stars Jackie Cooper and Jackie Coogan.

The feminine equivalent, Jacqueline, became the rage in the 1930's, and Jackie, for a short period, became a unisex name. Jack never regained its prominence, though there was a small surge after the United States elected a popular president named John, whose pet name was Jack. By Michael Jeffreys and Krissle Kraft, of Marina del Rey, California.

Why is 40 percent alcohol called 80 Proof? Before the nineteenth century, the technology wasn't available to measure the alcohol content of liquids accurately. The first hydrometer was invented by John Cikarke in 1725 but wasn't approved by the British Parliament for official use until the end of the century. In the meantime, purveyors of spirits needed a way to determine alcohol content, and tax collectors demanded a way to ascertain exactly what their rightful share of liquor sales was.

So, the British devised an ingenious, if imprecise, method. Someone figured out that gunpowder would ignite in an alcoholic liquid only if enough water was eliminated from the mix. When the proportion of alcohol to water was high enough that black gunpowder would explode-this was proof of the alcohol.

The British proof, established by the Cromwell Parliament, contained approximately eleven parts by volume of alcohol to ten parts water. The British proof is the equivalent of 114.2 U.S. Proof. More potent potables were called "over proof" (or o.p.), and those under 114.2 U.S. proof were deemed "under proof" (or u.p.).

The British and Canadians are still saddled with this archaic method of measuring alcohol content. The United State's system makes slightly more sense. The U.S. proof is simply double the alcohol percentage volume at 60 degrees F. For once, the rench are the logical nation. They recognize the wisdom in by-passing "proof" and simply stating the percentage of alcohol on spirits labels. The French method has spread to wine bottles everywhere, but hard liquor, true to its gunpowder roots, won't give up the "proof".

By Robert J. Abrams, of Boston, Massachusetts.





# Buchanans in America

By Jim Buchanan

*From Corn Palace to Royal Palace:  
William Insko Buchanan*

He was showman, a salesman, a tool maker, a peddler. But he was also a diplomat in the American service. Born of a prominent Ohio family he gained prominence for himself, rising from a salesman to a noted diplomat at his death. **William Insko Buchanan** was a man of many careers as his life moved from the corn palace to the royal palace.

A respected diplomat appointed by several presidents to serve the nation, William Insko Buchanan began life in Covington, Ohio, a descendant of an early military leader and settler of Ohio, Col. George Buchanan. William obtained little formal education, his studies coming in the rudimentary country schools of Ohio. However, coming from a family which included teachers, his knowledge was not restricted to the one room school. Although his early life was spent in Ohio among noted relatives in Miami County, his later prominence was not derived from their activities.

After serving as an engrossing clerk in the Indiana legislature in 1874-1875, Buchanan became a travelling salesman and a family man, marrying Lulu Williams, in 1878. Moving to Sioux City, Iowa in 1882 he started business as a jobber of crockery then opened a theatre. This was the beginning of prominence as he then became the moving spirit behind the four "corn palaces" of Sioux City, established between 1887 and 1890. As the manager of the last and most elaborate, William was a talented amusement manager and executive.

His showmanship and management abilities aided Buchanan as the chief of the Department of Agriculture at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago from 1890 to 1893. Continuing his rise to prominence, he was appointed minister to Argentina by President Cleveland the following

year. In his first diplomatic service he arbitrated the boundary dispute between Argentina and Chile.

From 1894 to 1900 Buchanan served as ambassador to Argentina, then returned to the international showmanship arena as Director-General of the Pan-American Exposition in 1901. The same year he was named as an American delegate to the second Pan-American Conference. From there his political career continued as America's first panamanian ambassador from 1903 to 1905 and chairman of the American delegates to the Third International Conference of American States, forerunner of the annual meetings of the Organization of American States.

During the same time as he was an American diplomat, Buchanan also represented the new York Life Insurance Company on their South American claims. From 1903-1905, he served as both panamanian ambassador for the United States and as manager of British Westinghouse Company. Buchanan was also an officer in the French Westinghouse Company.

In 1907 Buchanan served as a commissioner to the second Peace Conference at the Hague, and during this period was also an agent of the United States in international arbitration proceedings before the International Court at the Hague. From here it was on to London in an attempt to negotiate a treaty with Venezuela, having served as American commissioner to Venezuela. In 1909, during the negotiations in London, William Insko Buchanan died at the age of 55. He left behind a family including two children, Donald and Florence. In addition, he left behind a career which foretold the modern political scene, combining showmanship with diplomacy. Buchanan had made the trip from corn palace to royal palace, setting the stage for the modern diplomatic world.



*Clan Buchanan in the Agriculture Department.*

When the story of the United States Department of Agriculture is told, it begins with two members of the Clan Buchanan families. The early history of the Department and its service functions, begins with the story of **Norman Jay Colman** and **Jeremiah McClain Rusk**.

Colman was born May 16, 1827 in Richfield Springs, New York the son of Hamilton and Nancy (Sprague) Colman. Trained as an attorney he served both in law and in the military after moving to Missouri. After service as Lt. Col. of the 85th Missouri Militia in the Civil War three events pushed him into agricultural service. In 1865 he began publishing Colman's Rural World, he was elected to the Missouri legislature and he became a member of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture at its 1865 organization, remaining so until his death in 1911.

Several political offices later, Colman was appointed as U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture in 1885 by President Harrison. As Commissioner he so enlarged the scope of the office that it became a cabinet level Department on February 11, 1889, with Colman the first Secretary of Agriculture. In a brief service as Secretary he authored the Hatch Bill which created the agricultural experiment stations in all states and territories.

The second Secretary of Agriculture was **Jeremiah McClain Rusk**, born January 17, 1830 in Morgan County, Ohio. Both of his parents were children of Scotch-Irish immigrants to Maryland and both grandparents had fought for the colonies shortly after arriving in the 1770's.

Rusk's father died early so he lacked the formal education of Colman, but his care for the family farm pushed him into agricultural pursuits. Moving to Viroqua, Vernon County, Wisconsin as a businessman he eventually recruited a regiment for the Union in the Civil War, was brevetted brigadier general and returned to Wisconsin to take state office in 1865.

Rusk served as a Congressman and Governor of Wisconsin prior to his appointment as Secretary of Agriculture by President Harrison. During his service with the Department he secured the inspection of all American meat exports, thus eliminating the spread of cattle and swine diseases from the United States to foreign countries. By doing so he created an atmosphere where European nations removed their barriers to American meat and opened up new foreign markets. He also used the publicity of newspapers to popularize the Agriculture Department in its infant days.

Rusk retired from the department in March 1893 and died November 21, 1893 in his home in Vernon County, Wisconsin. His service, when added to that of Colman, established a solid base for the Agriculture Department and aided in its growth during the important early years of any cabinet-level position. In this way the Clan Buchanan families aided their American counterparts through their service.



**Duke Allen - Pipe Major of the Buchanan Pipes and Drums**  
**One toot and you're oot!!**

## LOCAL CHAPTERS

The Constitution and By-Laws, **ARTICLE XVI**, provides for the establishment of Regional and or Local Chapters. Specifically, Section 3: which is quoted here as follows:

"The Local Chapter of the Society may be established upon written petition to the Council signed by not less than ten (10) members in good standing in the Society, all residing in the same locale as defined by the Council. A petition for the formation of a local chapter must be accompanied by a set of By-Laws for governing such Local Chapter. With the approval of the Council such group shall become a Local Chapter of the Society and shall be issued a Charter signed by the President, Secretary and the Regional Commissioner wherein such local Chapter exists."

It is with pleasure that the President announces the establishment of the "First" petition and approved establishment of a Local Chapter of the

Society in the Northern California area.

Congratulations are in order for *another Buchanan Society First.*

## Scottish Anecdotes

In a small Scottish church, a sexton was painstakingly pursuing his duties, seeing that everyone had his place and was properly quiet during the sermon.

Suddenly he spied an old Scotswoman with an ear trumpet. Being unfamiliar with this device, he hurried over to her and in a low tone said, "One toot and you're oot."

"Weel, it's a long story," said the old man. "And while I'm telling it we may as well save the candle." Wherewith he blew it out.

"Never mind about the story," said the reporter, "I understand."

Jock said to his wife one night, "Weel, Maggie, I think I will go and pay my respects to the new neighbor."

Upon his return some time later, Maggie said, "Weel, Jock, what kind of a mon is the new neighbor?"

"He's a guid mon," replied Jock, "a guid mon and verra lib'ral with his liquor. But verra bad quality. In fact, Maggie, *it was that bad, I nearly left some.*"



The young journalist was sent to get a personal interview with the wealthy old Scotch merchant. His paper desired a human interest story on how he had accumulated his riches.