

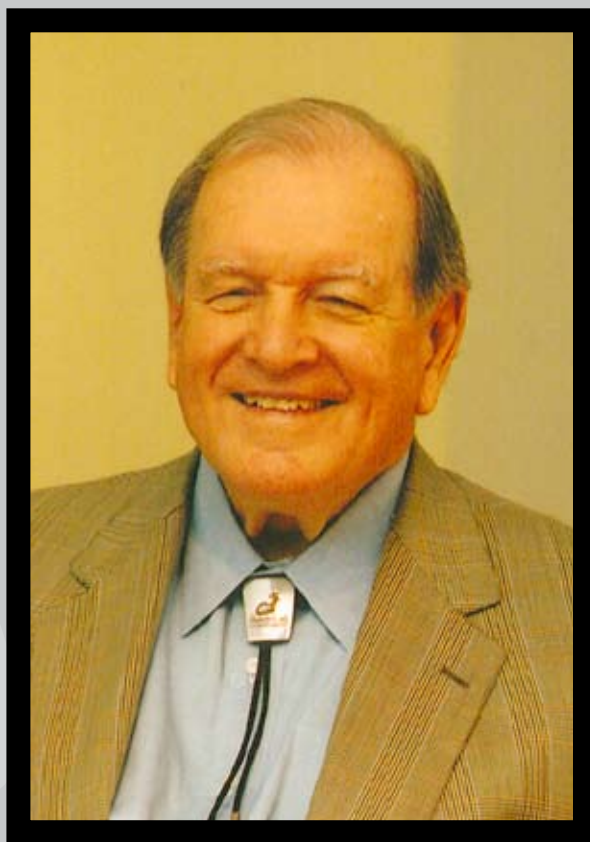


# Scorrybreac

December 2007



The Journal of Clan MacNicol  
of North America



## *Hammond Burke Nicholson, Jr.* *June 14, 1917 – June 27, 2007*

**BARON OF BALVENIE,  
CHIEFTAIN IN CLAN MACNICOL AND  
CHAIRMAN, THE HIGHLAND CLAN MACNEACAIL FEDERATION**

*Obituary from the 1 August 2007 Issue of The Scotsman  
in Edinburgh:*

**HAMMOND** Burke Nicholson Jr., who has died in his 91<sup>st</sup> year, was a senior executive of the Coca-Cola Corporation who became a significant benefactor in Scottish cultural life.

*He helped pioneer the Coca-Cola business in Europe, and was Senior Vice President of the company in Atlanta, Georgia. He developed the brand in Europe, and became a major player in the long standing corporate war with rival Pepsi-Cola.*

(OBITUARY, CONTINUES ON PAGE 5)



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## VOLUME 23 NUMBER 2

### Feature



**OBITUARY OF BURKE NICHOLSON OF BALVENIE**.....1  
*from the 1 August 2007 Issue of The Scotsman in Edinburgh*  
**TRIBUTES TO BURKE NICHOLSON OF BALVENIE**.....5  
*Murray Nicolson, John Nicoll*

### Announcements



page 24

**WEDDING** .....8  
*Chief's Son and Heir Weds Floridian Fiancée*  
**RENEWALS**.....15  
*Last Chance for 2007 Renewal and Membership Certificate*  
**NEW WEBSITE IN THE WEST**.....21  
**NEW CLAN BADGE**.....21  
**NEW ARRIVALS**.....24  
*Ozma Valentine Bryant and Emilienne Danielle Turbide*

### Clan Events



page 10

**CLAN GATHERING ON SKYE**.....10  
*October 2008*  
**CALENDAR OF 2008 REGIONAL REUNIONS**.....20

### Who's Who in the Clan



page 4

**CLAN SOCIETY DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS**.....2  
**FROM THE PRESIDENT** .....4  
*Jeremy Nicholson*  
**FALL 2007 MEMBERSHIP REPORT** .....14  
*Jeremy Nicholson*  
**NEW DIRECTOR AND STATE GAMES COMMISSIONERS** .....18

### Columns



page 12

**NICHOLSON FAMILY TREE DNA PROJECT**.....9  
*Murray Nicolson*  
**FRIENDS OF SCORRYBREAC LANDS UPDATE** .....12  
*Murray Nicolson*  
**YOU TOO CAN YAHOO!**.....17  
*Carolyn Nichol-Williams*  
**NICOL FAMILY IN DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND** .....22  
*Nicol D. Vandever*

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

*HIS ISSUE OF SCORRYBREAC APPEARS WITH THE sad news of the death of my father, Burke Nicholson of Balvenie, who passed away in late June at the age of 90. He had suffered from declining health since mid-May 2004, but managed to keep a positive outlook on life and a vigorous interest in the Clan and his family up to his last day.*

With him, an era is closing. He was a major force in the renewal of the Clan worldwide under the Chiefship of the late Iain MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac. They enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration and a warm personal friendship. To them and to others of their generation we owe a huge debt of gratitude. The Clan as we have come to know it would not exist but for their devotion and long labors. *Ave atque vale!* (Hail and farewell!)

As we mourn the passing of the old, let us also rejoice in the arrival of the young, Ozma Valentine Bryant in California, and Emilienne Danielle Turbide in Florida, both of whom we welcome into the Clan with heartiest congratulations to their happy parents.

Many of you will have noticed the greatly increased size of this issue and the previous one. This reflects the many activities of our Clan in North America. Consequently, the Directors have agreed to set the frequency of issues at two per year to keep in balance the total number of newsletter pages being published annually. The quality will of course be maintained and improved wherever possible.

2007 has seen the busiest-ever season of regional reunions and games representation in North America. Starting in January in Florida and finishing in Georgia in October, over 200 individuals—members, families, and friends—have participated in twelve reunions in Canada

*Elizabeth Roads, Lyon Clerk, with Jeremy at the Lyon Court in Edinburgh, Scotland (March 2007)*



and the U.S. In addition, the Clan has been represented at a dozen Highland Games and Festivals across the continent. Many thanks to State and Provincial Games Commissioners who worked very hard representing the Clan to a wide public.

The Friends of Scorrybreac Lands appeal launched by Murray Nicolson, the Chief's High Commissioner for the Americas, has enjoyed a tremendous success. Four Canadians and twenty-four Americans have signed up to each provide at least \$100 per year for the next five years. Dick Nicoll, Treasurer of the Scorrybreac Fund, is overseeing the financial aspect of the appeal in North America. He reports that by the end of October \$5,000 have been donated. The Clan is immensely grateful for this great show of generosity.

The entire Clan is invited to participate in the 2008 International Gathering on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. Scheduled for the first weekend of October next year, the Gathering will offer a wonderful opportunity to meet our Chief and his wife, and to discover—or rediscover—our stunning ancestral lands to which so many of us have contributed.

Those of you who earlier this year had ordered Membership Certificates will find them enclosed with this issue. Those of you who haven't yet renewed for 2007 should take advantage of a final opportunity to obtain your very own Certificate. The offer will not be repeated in 2008. Kudos to Murray who ran this project while transiting from one side of the Atlantic to the other and back.

As always, I invite any of you to contact me directly by phone, e-mail or letter about any Clan matter. Check my masthead listing for ways to reach me.

In conclusion and on behalf of all Clan Officers, I would like to wish all of you and your families a Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Years!

*Jeremy Nicholson*



---

(OBITUARY, FROM PAGE 1)

interested in his genealogical roots as a member of Clan MacNicol, Nicholson was a former High Commissioner for the Americas in the Highland Clan MacNicol, Chieftain and Counsellor to the Clan Chief, and a trustee of the Clan MacNicol Trust on Skye. A decade ago he was appointed Chairman of the Highland Clan MacNeacail Federation.

A longstanding enthusiast for heraldry, he was able as a descendant of a Scot to petition for arms from the Lord Lyon, and this he did

ability gained swift recognition. He worked with the company in New York, and after war service in the South Atlantic, engaged his Europhile tendencies with executive positions in London, Amsterdam, Zurich, Paris, Brussels and back to London, becoming President, then Chairman of Coca-Cola Europe.

Always a prominent figure in his red Nicholson kilt, Balvenie continued to visit Scotland annually. Family commitment to Clan matters continues through his younger brother, Harman (to whom the Barony of Balvenie falls), and his three sons.

He is survived by three sons from his marriage of sixty-one years to the late Juliet Duncan Nicholson: H. Burke (Nick) Nicholson III, Jeremy Duncan Nicholson, and Graham Seaford Nicholson; and three grandchildren.

# Tributes

## to Burke Nicholson of Balvenie

in 1988, followed by a flowering of family heraldry with individual matriculations of arms for eight family members. He backed this by commissioning a series of banners that flew in line on great occasions at Highland games in North America, each flag showing the correct difference of each cadet in exuberant colour. His infectious eagerness saw him snapping up the Barony of Balvenie when that came on the market, and he re-recorded arms in 1995 to display the red cap of a feudal baron above his shield. The Barony, centred on Balvenie Castle in Banffshire, brought him into close contact with Dufftown, and typically of the man, he took the responsibility of his Barony seriously, becoming Honorary President of Dufftown Highland Games, patron of Dufftown Horticultural Society and a notable benefactor of Mortlach Church.

He also destined largesse to the Royal Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, to the publication of a book on Clan MacNicol, and sponsored a splendid catalogue to accompany the 1995 Edinburgh exhibition of heraldry. Eldest of five siblings, Nicholson of Balvenie was educated in Atlanta, Toronto and the London School of Economics. He began on one of the lower rungs of Coca-Cola in a bottling plant in Greenfield, Massachusetts, but his

**MURRAY NICOLSON  
CHIEFTAIN IN CLAN MACNICOL  
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS**

I would like to pay a tribute to the life of Hammond Burke Nicholson Jr. – Burke Nicholson of Balvenie. With his brother Harman he was a major force in the establishment of the Clan MacNicol societies and their Chief. I first got to know Burke and Harman through their late brother John, whom I had contacted in the early 1980s with a view to starting a Clan MacNicol society in North America. At that time there was a dispute between our late Chief and Lord Carnock regarding the Chiefship of the Clan Nicholson, which had been decided in Carnock's favour. Burke worked astutely with other Clansmen and lawyers in Edinburgh in Scotland to settle the matter at the Court of the Lord Lyon, resulting in Ian MacNeacail of Scorrybreac being recognised as the Chief of the Highland Clan MacNeacail in 1987, a separate and distinct clan from Clan Nicholson.

Burke had a wide knowledge of Scottish history and heraldry, and was well known and respected at the Lyon Court. It was Burke's reading of an epic poem *The Bruce* composed

(TRIBUTES, CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)





(TRIBUTES, FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

about 1375 that alerted the Clan to its support with warriors of Robert the Bruce's brother, Edward, in 1316 at the siege of Carrickfergus Castle in Ireland. As a result of this discovery, the Clan Chief's coat of arms were enhanced by the addition of Supporters (two Highland warriors) in 1998, indicating the significance of our Highland Clan.

Burke was also instrumental in the formation of the Highland Clan MacNeacail Federation, the first of its kind, with its own coat of arms, and he was its first Chairman. Any of our Clan societies around the world accepted by our Chief becomes a member of the Federation. The Federation itself is a Founding Member (along with Burke and Harman) of the Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, and resulted in Burke being presented to the Queen at Holyrood Palace after the Museum's opening ceremony.

For all his many contributions to the Clan, Burke was granted the honor of being made a Chieftain of the Clan by our late Chief Ian MacNeacail in 1992. Burke attended several of the Clan's international gatherings on the Isle of Skye, often accompanied by his late wife Juliet until her passing in May 2000, and he hosted many memorable dinners there.

On a personal note, Burke was a great friend and help to me during the start-up years when I was President of the Clan MacNicol Society of North America from 1985 to 1994. I had many telephone calls from him speaking with his courteous Southern intonations which would begin with the words, "It occurs to me that..." and then would follow some instruction which I would quickly be made to appreciate would be wise for me to follow! It may give away my Yankee predisposition, but to me Burke was my idea of the perfect Southern gentleman—effortlessly polite but always very firm and clear in expressing his opinions. I will miss those phone calls.

Thank you, Burke, for all you that have done for me and for our Clan.

*Murray Nicolson, Chieftain in Clan MacNicol, Concord, Massachusetts*

*Murray Nicolson and Burke Nicolson at St. Columba's Isle (1991)*



**JOHN NICOLL  
LIEUTENANT IN CLAN MACNICOL  
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

It is with deep sorrow that we record the passing of a very special man in the person of Burke Nicholson of Balvenie. He had a great influence on the Clan throughout the world, nurturing, encouraging, and helping us grow. He was a most welcome presence at the 1999 International Clan Gathering in Melbourne, Victoria.

The magnificent banner, the Pinsel, which Burke commissioned and donated to Australia is one of our proudest possessions. Burke's most generous gift to the Clan was above all his time, wisdom, experience, and support. Of these, he was unstintingly free.

We will all miss the man: he was a joy to know and we hold precious our memories of him.

*John Nicoll, Lieutenant in Clan MacNicol, Sydney, Australia*



# Further Details on the Life of Burke Nicholson

*Burke had a long and productive life. Previous articles in this issue have highlighted his contributions to the Clan and to Scotland. He was also a significant figure in Atlanta, his place of birth and death.*



*Photo Top Left: Nicholson family headstone at Westview Cemetery in Atlanta, Georgia*

*Photo Top Right: The late Juliet and Burke Nicholson of Balvenie (1993)*

*Photo Bottom Right: From left to right visiting Balvenie Castle: Harman Nicholson of Balvenie, the late Chief Iain MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac, the late Burke Nicholson of Balvenie, Chief John MacNeacail of MacNeacail and Scorrybreac (1995)*

Duncan, daughter of the late Claude Duncan and Helen Peacock Duncan of Toronto. Juliet predeceased Burke in 2000. They were married for sixty-one years and had, as noted elsewhere, three sons, all of whom live in Atlanta and are active members of the Clan.

(FURTHER DETAILS, CONTINUES ON PAGE 24)



**H**is entire 37 year career was spent with The Coca-Cola Company, famously headquartered in Atlanta. He started to work in New England in 1937 in Coca-Cola bottling plants, and was assigned to the Coca-Cola Pavilion at the New York World's Fair in 1939 and 1940. During the Second World War, he was accredited by the War Department as a Technical Observer attached to the U.S. Army Forces, South Atlantic. After World War II he served in senior executive positions in Amsterdam, Zurich, Paris and Brussels, as well as London, and was for many years a Senior Vice President of The Coca-Cola Export Corporation.

The eldest son of the late Hammond Burke Nicholson, former Chairman of The Coca-Cola Company, and the late Lucia Meetze Harman Nicholson, Burke was educated in Atlanta, then in Toronto and finally in England at the London School of Economics (University of London). In 1939, he married Juliet





**O**

CORRYBREAC, OUR CLAN CHIEF, WROTE  
"Our older son, Luke, celebrated his marriage to the lovely Kate Hoffman on February 24. We are so very pleased to welcome Kate into our family and into the Clan, although she is already a veteran of two International Clan Gatherings, having been on Skye in 2004 and in Dunedin, New Zealand last year.

The wedding was held at Boulders Beach between Ballina and Lennox Head (in northern New South Wales, Australia) with fine weather prevailing. This avoided the necessity of going to plan B. Kate's parents travelled from St. Augustine, Florida, and much to everyone's surprise, so did her grandparents—a very well kept secret which gave her much joy.

Those of you who have had enjoyed meeting Kate will understand how delighted we are that she is now part of our family."

*Scorrybreac's sister, Lisa Dillon, provided the following report on the day's events.*

The marriage was certainly not a traditional event. Held at Boulders Beach, just north of Ballina, it was however an appropriate venue for the two sun-tanned surfers to tie the knot.



It was a perfect afternoon at the beach—blue skies, a few puffy white clouds and a gentle breeze to keep the temperatures very comfortable. The groom and his party looked suave in their black shirts, cream pants and...thongs (also known as flip-flops in America). Well, what else would you wear to the beach? They were formal black thongs, of course. Behind

them the sand, grassy headlands and gently rolling surf completed the picture.

Luke looked suitably nervous, but broke into a broad grin when his beautiful Kate appeared walking up the sandy track, led by a piper and escorted by her grandfather and stepfather. Kate was wearing an elegant halter-neck crepe dress with a small train which had been hand-beaded with crystals. Her veil, made by her grandmother, was also hand-beaded.

After the simple wedding ceremony which was conducted by a celebrant, the guests were invited to toss frangipani flowers into the surf and make a wish for the newly-married couple.

The reception attended by ninety guests took place in another beautiful setting – a white marquee on a green lawn beside the broad Richmond River at Ballina with the setting sun spreading golden hues across the water and distant hills.

(WEDDING, CONTINUES ON PAGE 24)



# Nicholson Family Tree DNA Project

*This is an update to the article on DNA testing which appeared in the October 2005 issue of Scorrybreac. To summarize, the earlier article had been prompted by Clan member Phillip Nichols of Detroit, Michigan. Phillip had used DNA testing to help to trace his family back to Virginia in 1712 and was keen to encourage other Clan members to join the project.*

*At that time there were 66 participants in a Nichols family tree project, and 19 in a similar Nicholson project (the precise spelling is not important). At the latest count, these are now 128 and 52 members respectively, so the interest is clearly growing.*

## Murray Nicolson

Every male has a Y-chromosome in the genes of every one of the cells in his body that he received from his father, who in turn received it from his father, and so on back in time. These Y-chromosomes only change very rarely through mutations, and so two males who have the same ancestor 500 or 1,000 years ago will almost certainly have an identical Y-chromosome. DNA testing has been developed in the last 10 years to allow comparisons of Y-chromosomes for genealogical family tracing. If two males chosen at random, even from the same geographical area, compare their DNA readings from the Y-chromosomes, it is very unlikely they will match. However, if they have the same surname, the likelihood will be much higher because of the tradition in Western society to retain only the male surname through many generations—*pace* our female readers—we know that gender equality may soon erode this custom! The common ancestor may be many generations ago, but the DNA will still match if there is one.

As a result, many Surname DNA projects have begun and these are growing rapidly. Launched in April 2000, Family Tree DNA is a company in Texas that performs these DNA tests. Their website is at <http://www.familytreedna.com>. You pay a fee that depends on the number of markers that are tested. The larger the number of markers, the greater the confidence there is a unique match. The test is simple—you scrape a little brush that is provided along the inside of your cheek, pop it in a sealed test tube and mail it off to the laboratory. The results are provided a few weeks later and can be added to the databases for comparison with other people of the same surname. Clearly, the more participants there

are in the Surname database the greater the chance a match will occur.

The results of course ought to be backed up by traditional genealogical research for verification. One such interesting match has already occurred. Our long-time Clan MacNicol member Burke Nicholson of Balvenie, who recently passed away after reaching his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, found a near-exact match with Guy Mc Nicoll of Quebec (35 out of 37 markers). The Quebec descendants of Duncan and Kathryn Mc Nicoll can document their male ancestor's birthplace to Inveraray, Argyllshire in Scotland, with his last place of residence before emigration to Canada being Comrie in Perthshire—coincidentally where my brother David now lives. The Atlanta Nicholsons, on the other hand, could not verify the exact locality, town, or region of their ancestor, Duncan Nicholson, who emigrated from Scotland to North America at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. Because of the difference in surnames between Mc Nicoll and Nicholson, no link would ever have been anticipated. However, it now appears that one family changed their surname to the more common anglicised version Nicholson, and that they indeed have a common ancestor in Scotland, with a 90% probability of this occurring no more than twelve generations ago, either in Argyllshire or Perthshire.

Speaking personally, I hope to use the same process to solve a mystery in my own genealogy that has existed for 30 years. In tracing my family, I found two Nicolsons (Nellie and Alexander) who married in 1891 in Edinburgh. Both of their separate families have been traced back to the same village of Pittenweem in Fife in Scotland, but we have never been able to prove they are actually connected to a common ancestor away back in the 1700s. DNA testing has now provided a tool that might solve the mystery. I just have to find a male from the other side willing to participate!

If you are interested in seeing the current state of the DNA results for Nicolson, go to the website <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~weldonnicholsondna/dnanicholson.html>

The DNA tests are not cheap, they vary from \$149 for the simplest 12-marker Y-DNA test and \$259 for a 37-marker test. But you might be as intrigued as I am!





View across Portree Bay (photograph by Bill Beckman)

## 2008 International Gathering on Skye



Bay view (photograph by Bill Beckman)

**W**e are pleased to announce that the next International Clan Gathering has been scheduled to take place in Scotland on the Isle of Skye during the first weekend of October next year—Friday, October 3 to Sunday, October 5, 2008.

As happens every four years, Clan members from all over the globe will be coming over to our ancestral lands near the town of Portree to share in this stimulating and memorable occasion.

North American members are especially invited. Scorrybreac and Jenni will be leading the festivities, and we expect a significant turn-out of Clan Society Directors and Officers.

A full schedule of events will be organized by the Clan MacNeacail Society of Scotland. Details will be forthcoming next spring, including suggested lodgings.

For members with access to the internet, keep an eye on the Clan's North American website [www.clanmacnicol.org](http://www.clanmacnicol.org) for further news of the Gathering.







*Black Point facing towards Raasay (photograph by Bill Beckman)*



*View towards the north from foreshore of the Clan lands (photograph by Bill Beckman)*



# Report on the Friends of Scorrybreac Lands



A couple from Germany enjoying the view over Portree harbor from a bench on our land in July 2007

*At the International Clan Gathering in Dunedin, New Zealand in October 2006 we agreed to form a group called Friends of Scorrybreac Lands. Its members would commit to providing £50 a year (or equivalent) for 5 years to give the Lands Trust on Skye a steady income source for maintenance. This is a report on the formation of the group and the condition of the land.*

## Murray Nicolson

I visited the land at Ben Craic in July 2007 and found it in excellent shape, with all the grass around the cairn area well maintained and the ferns cut back. Last year we had contracted with Ian Nicolson of Braes to look after the cairn area, and it was clear he was doing a very effective job. I also noted the new drainage that had been installed under the footpath by Hector Nicolson of Sconser to cure a severe erosion problem. The benches around the cairns were still serviceable, although the older wooden ones could have had a new coat of varnish to preserve them. There was now a new cairn erected by the local government with a handsome signboard describing the Clan MacNicol's connection with the land. This is a substantial structure that should be resistant to the vandalism that destroyed

the previous indicator plaque installed in 2004. I walked all around the perimeter of Ben Craic and found that everything was in good order and the views magnificent as ever.

During the next year, the Trustees do not have any plans for major work on the land, only to keep what we have for the enjoyment of all visitors. The view seated from one of the benches near our cairns is magnificent and much photographed, with the pretty harbor of Portree below and the Cuillin Hills in the distance as a backdrop to Loch Portree in the foreground. The next Clan MacNicol International Gathering will be held on October 3-5, 2008 in Portree, Isle of Skye. If you can make it, do plan to be there and see it all for yourself!





## FRIENDS OF SCORRYBREAC LANDS IN NORTH AMERICA

Chief John MacNeacail	Ballina	NSW	Australia
Jeremy Nicholson	Atlanta	GA	USA
John Gillis	Ware Neck	VA	USA
Marsha Gillis	Ware Neck	VA	USA
Murray and Barbara Nicolson	Concord	MA	USA
*Burke Nicholson of Balvenie	Atlanta	GA	USA
C. B. Harman Nicholson	Atlanta	GA	USA
Dick and Carol Nicoll	Billerica	MA	USA
Don Nicolson	Thornbury	Ontario	Canada
Bob Nichols	Webb City	MO	USA
Forrester Nicolson	Wellesley Hills	MA	USA
David G. and Suzanne R. Nichol	Harbor City	CA	USA
Mary Lou Nicolson Klimek	Cochrane	Alberta	Canada
John and Paula Nichols	Fairfax	VA	USA
Tom and Mary Nichols	Las Vegas	NV	USA
Robert and Margaret Nickell	San Diego	CA	USA
Robert Duncan Nicol	Napa	CA	USA
Dale and Marilyn Nicoll	Concord	CA	USA
Linda and Dexter Beck	Rockledge	FL	USA
Patty Herb	Warner Robbins	GA	USA
Guy and Heather Williams	Bordentown	NJ	USA
Lee Nicholson	Bracey	VA	USA
Edward Nicolson	San Francisco	CA	USA
William L. Beckman	Lake Mills	WI	USA
Shirlee MacPhee Weinmann	Woodside	CA	USA
Bruce Craig McNichols	Kirkland	WA	USA
Diane K. Blaine	Fort Wayne	IN	USA
Stewart and Marie Nicolson	Brampton	Ontario	Canada
Wilfred Lloyd Nicolson	Montague	PEI	Canada


\*Deceased

### FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2007 AS OF NOVEMBER 4, 2007

Since we decided to form Friends of Scorrybreac Lands, we have received a total of £5,159 in donations from 55 contributors, some covering only the year 2007, and some covering several years with advance payments. The amount actually committed for the single year 2007 amounted to £2,935 from the 55 contributors; our target had been £3,000 from 60 people, so we met the target. However we would still be glad to recruit more Friends who would be willing to commit to support the land maintenance over several years to provide a steady income to the Trust. Please contact me on-line at [m.nicolson@ieee.org](mailto:m.nicolson@ieee.org) for details (or check the mast-head for my mailing address and telephone number).

Expenditures during 2007 until November 4, 2007 were as follows:

<i>Repairs to the gate and the paths (Hector Nicolson).....</i>	<i>£1,318.00</i>
<i>Grass cutting and land maintenance (Ian Nicolson).....</i>	<i>£682.81</i>
<i>Legal fees .....</i>	<i>£881.25</i>
<i>Trust registration fees.....</i>	<i>£40.55</i>
<i>Insurance Public Liability.....</i>	<i>£225.00</i>
<i>Trustee Liability.....</i>	<i>£236.25</i>
<i>Room hire for 2006</i>	
<i>Annual Meeting of Urras Clann MhicNeacail.....</i>	<i>£34.84</i>
<i>Bank charges.....</i>	<i>£16.87</i>
<i>Total expenditures.....</i>	<i>£3,435.57</i>

The legal fees relate to advice on trustee appointments, use of Clan lands, liability coverage, registration of deeds, etc. and are mostly a one-time charge. The Trust has Public Liability coverage of £5M and Trustee Liability coverage of £200k with Zurich Municipal. 



# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

## AUTUMN 2007

Jeremy  
Nicholson

**D**URING THE PAST SPRING, summer and autumn, your Clan Society has enrolled with gratitude a total of 42 new memberships: 9 from 4 Canadian provinces, 1 from Italy, 2 from Scotland, and 30 from 15 U.S. states.

We welcome our new members and look forward to many years of a mutually satisfying and productive association.

It is our further pleasure to report that over the same period 30 membership renewals have arrived from 7 provinces in Canada, 1 from Germany, 1 from New Zealand, and 105 from 30 states in the U.S. totaling 137.

We have been delighted to receive renewals from ten members who belong to the "Class of 1986." They were among the first to join the Clan Society in that year and have

remained staunch supporters for two decades since. In alphabetical order by family name, they are: Bruce Goodburne (Alpena, MI), Ronald Goodburne (Alpena, MI), Gerald and Elizabeth McNichols (Winston-Salem, NC), Robert and Lisa Nichol (Wilmington, NC), Robert Nichols (Webb City, MO), Forrester and Judith Nicolson (Wellesley Hills, MA), Harry and June Nicolson (Sacramento, CA), Murray and Barbara Nicolson (Concord, MA), Patricia Robinson-Linder (Wallingford, PA), and Chenoweth and Avis Watson (Wellfleet, MA).

The following members purchased a gift membership in 2007 for a relative: Joyce Keller for her sister Cynthia Olstrom (both of Tampa, FL); Raymond Williams of East Brunswick, NJ, for his mother and uncle, Marie McNicol Refstrup and George McNicol (both of Edison, NJ). Thanks to Joyce and Ray for their generosity and thoughtfulness!

Five renewing members have earned a special mention of appreciation for their extra effort: L. Dow Nichol III of Glen Ellyn (IL) who paid for two years of membership (2007 and 2008); Bruce Nicholson Goodburne of Alpena (MI) who paid for two years of membership (2006 and 2007); Robert B. and Lisa Nichol of Wilmington (NC) who paid for three years of membership (2006, 2007 and 2008); Robert P. and Alice Nicholson of Scottsdale (AZ); plus Robert D. and Elizabeth Nicholson of Seattle (WA) who renewed in advance for 2008. Bravo and thanks!

Twenty-nine members also significantly helped the Clan Society by contributing above their annual dues. Thank you so much to each of you: these funds will be of great help to the Clan in its increased attendance at Scottish festivals and Highland games throughout North America!

Forty-one members generously contributed above the requested minimum to the Scorrybreac Fund for the maintenance of the Clan lands on Skye. Ben Craicaig will continue to thrive thanks to these donations.

Many thanks again to all for your support: your interest and generosity keep the Clan Society going!

### LAST CHANCE TO RENEW FOR 2007

Members who have not yet renewed for 2007 are invited to complete the separate renewal form which has been inserted for you only in this issue. Please return the form by February 25 to the indicated address in the U.S. or Canada—as appropriate—with your check made out to "Clan MacNicol Society, Inc."

If this issue does NOT contain a renewal form, this means that you have paid your 2007 dues and therefore don't have to do anything more.

If you have any question about your membership status, please contact me as soon as possible by e-mail at [clanmacnicolsociety@bsn1.net](mailto:clanmacnicolsociety@bsn1.net) or by phone at 770 650-0905 and I will be happy to assist you.

### LAST CHANCE SPECIAL OFFER FOR 2007 RENEWING MEMBERS

Members who renew for 2007 by February 25 will receive free of charge one keepsake Membership Certificate personally signed by our Clan Chief himself.

Please read the enclosed renewal form's instructions carefully for details of this offer. Then complete the form giving your name exactly as you wish it on your Certificate. Return the completed form to the indicated address in the U.S. or Canada—as appropriate—with your check made out to "Clan MacNicol Society, Inc."



---

## NEW MEMBERS

(March through November 2007)

### CANADA

#### Alberta

Colin Andrew Nicholson ..... Calgary

#### British Columbia

Kelly Nimmo ..... Richmond

#### Manitoba

Craig and Melanie Leonardt ..... Winnipeg

#### Ontario

Bruce Bird ..... Burlington

Judith E. Carrick ..... Kitchener

Suzanne Jalbert-Harry ..... Mississauga

Kimberley Ann and

David Nicholson-Simpson ..... Mount Forrest

Laurie Nicholson-Filio ..... Peterborough

Donald Hugh and

Carrol Ann Nicholson ..... Thornbury

### ITALY

Marilena Castenetto ..... Cassacco

### SCOTLAND

Margaret and Ken Sessions ..... Dufftown

David and Sue Sellar ..... Edinburgh

### U.S.A.

#### California

Gordon and Priscilla Riess ..... Beverly Hills

#### Craig and

Courtney Nicholson Mizutani ..... Concord

Paul Lindsay Marchant ..... Lafayette

Kevin and Wendy Kester ..... Los Gatos

#### Colorado

Christian J. Keffel-Nicholas ..... Boulder

#### Georgia

Anne Mayfield and

Gary Gerald ..... Atlanta

Lee Hughey ..... Chamblee

Tara Rhodes Nichols ..... Waleska

#### Idaho

Kathryn and

Eugene McNichols-Chapman ..... Boise

#### Illinois

James V. Nicholson ..... Tinley Park

#### Maine

Anita and Bill Kelloway ..... Berwick

#### Massachusetts

Elizabeth Cross Hartman ..... Saugus

#### New Jersey

Raymond and

Joyce Williams ..... East Brunswick

George McNicol ..... Edison

Marie McNicol Refstrup ..... Edison

#### North Carolina

Deborah and Robert Fuller ..... Raleigh

#### Ohio

Robert and Kay Nichols ..... Akron

#### Pennsylvania

Patricia and

Jan Charles Nicholson Jr. ..... Sarver

Jamie and

Jan Charles Nicholson III ..... New Kensington

#### South Carolina

Tom and Rachel McCanless ..... Simpsonville

### Texas

Olive H. Pearson ..... Fort Worth

David and Melissa Nicholas ..... Nevada

### Utah

Michelle McNicol ..... Grantsville

Steven L. Nichol ..... Salt Lake City

John L. McNicol and

Brenda Madsen ..... Tooele

Randell Lawrence ..... West Jordan

### Washington

Rex and Bonnie McNicol ..... Eatonville

Scott Rex McNicol ..... Eatonville

James Richard Nicholson II ..... Seattle

Dick and Jean Nicholson ..... Shoreline

## 2007 RENEWING MEMBERS

(March through November 2007)

*An asterisk \* preceding your name means that you generously donated to the annual upkeep of the Clan Land on Skye, and a crosshatch # in the same position denotes that you made an extra gift to the Clan Society beyond your annual dues.*

*Those members who have gone the extra mile and joined the Friends of Scorrybreac Lands with a five-year commitment of support are gratefully identified by the designation FoSL at the end of their listing.*

### CANADA

#### Alberta

\*Kimberley and Michael Cook ..... Calgary

\*Stephen Hugh and

Beverly Nichol ..... Calgary

\*Michael Klimek ..... Cochrane

\*Mary Lou Nicolson Klimek ..... Cochrane FoSL

\*Ian and Margaret Nicolson ..... Edmonton

#### British Columbia

\*Erron Nicolson ..... Grand Forks

\*Brent Nicolson ..... Kamloops

\*Fred and Evelyn Nicolson ..... Kamloops

\*William and Isabel Nicol ..... North Vancouver

\*Jean Nicolson-Church ..... Port Coquitlam

\*Sherri and Amir Carew ..... Port Hardy

\*Shirley and

William Nicholson-Ross ..... Port Hardy

\*Paule McNicoll ..... Vancouver

\*Mike and Heather Siska ..... Vancouver

#### Nova Scotia

\*Mark Hamilton Nicholson ..... Halifax

\*Patricia Nicholson-Morrison ..... Mahone Bay

#### Ontario

\*Hugh K. and Bonnie Nicholson ..... Barrie

\*Norman M. and Deborah Nicol ..... Burlington

\*Margot and

Cameron Nicholson-Trott ..... Collingwood

\*John and Susan Nicolson ..... Hilton Beach

\*Michael and Mary Jean Nicolson ..... North York

\*Michael D. and Katrin Nicholson ..... Ottawa

(MEMBERSHIP REPORT CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)





(MEMBERSHIP REPORT FROM PREVIOUS PAGE)

\*Donald and  
Elizabeth Nicolson ..... Thornbury *FoSL*

**Prince Edward Island**

\*Ronald R. Nicholson ..... Cornwall

**Québec**

\*Jean and Andrew Carruthers ..... Beaconsfield

\*Jacques and Sylvie McNicoll ..... Ile Perot

\*Rachelle McNicol Bergeron ..... Montréal

\*Guy and Carole McNicoll ..... St. Pie

\*Claudine and  
Bernard Godin-McNicoll ..... Val Cartier

**Saskatchewan**

\*Sheldon James Nicholson ..... Yorkton

**GERMANY**

\*#Karl and Gisella Stellmacher ..... Nordenham

**NEW ZEALAND**

\*Isobel O. Hutcheon ..... Enderley

**U.S.A.**

**Arizona**

\*Bruce and Pauline McNichols ..... Green Valley

\*#Harry and Janet Lee ..... Mesa

\*Jerry E. Nichols ..... Mesa

\*Ken E. Nicolls ..... Flagstaff

\*Kevan and  
Rosemarie Taylor-Perry ..... Flagstaff

\*#Robert P. and  
Alice Nicholson ..... Scottsdale (2008)

**California**

\*Garrett and Kathleen Nichols ..... Ben Lomond

Dale W. and Marilyn Nicoll ..... Concord *FoSL*

\*#Judith and Kenneth Lindley ..... Fallbrook

David G. and  
Suzanne Nichol ..... Harbor City *FoSL*

\*#Walter William Nicholson ..... Long Beach

\*Alan and Maria Nichols ..... Livermore

Robert Duncan Nicol ..... Napa *FoSL*

\*David and Lana Nicol ..... Orange

\*Virginia Woodis ..... Pacifica

\*#June and  
Harry MacIvor Nicolson ..... Sacramento

\*#Kristin Hotti and Rick DeTurck ..... San Carlos

#Robert and  
Margaret Nickell ..... San Diego *FoSL*

Edward and  
Valerie Nicolson ..... San Francisco *FoSL*

\*Kathleen Nicholson Graham ..... Stanton

\*#Michael Bryant and  
Rebecca Valentino ..... Vacaville

\*Malcolm and Irene Willis ..... Westminster

\*N. Douglas and Mary Vandever ..... Woodland

#Shirlee MacPhee Weinmann ..... Woodside *FoSL*

**Connecticut**

\*#Jeanie Nicol England ..... Cheshire

\*#Doris Nicol Marinaro ..... South Glastonbury

**Florida**

\*George and Amelia Nicol ..... Cocoa Beach

\*Barbara J. Schultz ..... Oneco

Linda and Dexter E. Beck Sr. .... Rockledge *FoSL*

\*Joyce and Phyllis Keller ..... Tampa

\*Cynthia and Cliff Olstrom ..... Tampa

**Georgia**

\*Douglas C. Ikelman ..... Atlanta

\*#JoAnn and H. Burke Nicholson III ..... Atlanta

\*R. Burke and Kerri Nicholson ..... Atlanta

\*#Alice and Brown Nicholson Jr. .... Columbus

\*Lois Nicholson Upham ..... Covington

\*Bradley C. and Rebecca Tabbert ..... Cumming

\*William C. and Maura Nicholson ..... Hiram

\*Lisa and Dexter E. Beck Jr. .... Marietta

\*Jane and Richard Johnson ..... Marietta

\*Graham and Gay Nicholson ..... Marietta

#Patty Herb ..... Warner Robins *FoSL*

\*John D. and Joan Nicol ..... Woodstock

**Hawaii**

\*Robert and Drucilla Gilroy ..... Kula

**Illinois**

\*Sandy Nicholas Powell ..... Chicago

\*#L. Dow Nichol III ..... Glen Ellyn (2007-8)

\*Robert and Susan Harmon ..... Lincoln

\*Susan C. Nicholson ..... Tinley Park

\*Heather and Clint Studebaker ..... West Chicago

**Indiana**

\*Diana K. Blaine ..... Fort Wayne *FoSL*

\*Ian Tracy Cross ..... Muncie

**Iowa**

Peter S. Dunbar ..... Iowa City

**Maine**

\*Jack and Barbara Nicholson ..... York

**Maryland**

\*Lawrence and  
Susan Nicol Saunder ..... Baltimore

**Massachusetts**

Dick and Carol Nicoll ..... Billerica *FoSL*

Murray and Barbara Nicolson ..... Concord *FoSL*

\*William E. and Ann Nicholson ..... Natick

\*Bruce F. Nicoll ..... Somerset

\*Forrester and  
Judith Nicolson ..... Wellesley Hills *FoSL*

\*Chenoweth and Avis Watson ..... Wellfleet

\*Douglas S. Nicoll ..... Windsor

**Michigan**

\*Bruce Nicholson Goodburne ..... Alpena (2006-7)

\*Ronald Stuart Goodburne ..... Alpena

\*David and Laurel Nicol ..... Big Rapids

\*Holly and Tom Shutler ..... Lansing

\*Phillip and Ruth Nichols ..... Oak Park

\*Karen L. Goodburne ..... Walled Lake

\*#Elspeth Nicolson Gibbs ..... Wyandotte

**Mississippi**

\*Marjorie Baxter ..... Lucedale

**Missouri**

\*#Donald D. and Reta Nicholson ..... Columbia

#Robert L. Nichols ..... Webb City *FoSL*

**Montana**

\*Kenneth P. Marx ..... Helena

**Nevada**

#Tom and Mary Nichols ..... Las Vegas *FoSL*

**New Hampshire**

\*Wayne and Sally Nicoll ..... Andover

\*David and Jean Nichols ..... Center Conway

\*Mary and  
Robert Wilkinson-Greenberg ..... Jackson

(MEMBERSHIP REPORT CONTINUES ON PAGE 23)



## You Too Can Yahoo!

Carolyn Nichol-Williams



Carolyn Nichol-Williams at Arlington Scottish Games, Texas (June 2007)

ONCE UPON A TIME  
a humble announce-  
ment made its way  
onto the World Wide  
Web...

*“November 13<sup>th</sup> 2006:*

*You are reading the first posting on Clan Mac-Neacail's New Yahoo Discussion Group! I am the Texas Clan Commissioner and I live in the Dallas area. I just thought it would be interesting to see how far we can reach with a group just for Clan MacNicol. We can share events, news, pictures, and encouragements, whatever!*

*I've already posted a few pictures from the 2006 Texas Scottish Festival held this last June and a couple of my favorite links on the groups home page (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ClanMacNeacail>). You too can share photos, links and files.*

*I hope to hear from someone...  
anyone...  
you SOON!”*


And so started an experiment in international chain-mail! To date we have 17 members from at least 6 states who have found the group either through an initial “invitation”, word of mouth, or an announcement on the North American Clan Website's Discussion Group (<http://www.clanmacnicol.org>). We are always excited when we add a new member and we get to send out welcome messages!

We've talked about our local events and shared pictures; we've shared favorite recipes ideas (Haggis Poppers, yum) and interesting historic information about kilts, the Gaelic language, diet of the ancient Scots and more. We occasionally get to help someone searching for information about their family tree or working on travel plans to Scotland.

We are always interested in your family's history and how you learned about your Scottish heritage. And we want to know about the events coming up in your area.

One member developed the website *The Scotchman* (<http://www.scotchman.us>) a site full of great information and links; another is the Webmaster of the North American Clan MacNicol site (<http://www.clanmacnicol.org>). We have three State Commissioners so far and being able to share some booth ideas has been great! Earlier this year, we added our well travelled North American Clan President; he has come in handy for answering those nagging questions about crests, history and travel. We have school teachers, college students, computer techs, medical personnel and more.

A member in California has commissioned the production of an improved version of the Clan Badge pin (the group consensus has been that some cheap renditions of the hawk look something like a sock puppet) and many of us are waiting for the chance to purchase the finished pins. You can get details by joining the group! We are even getting some basic Gaelic instructions from a member who is taking lessons in Arizona! One day we hope to have Clanspeople from Australia, Canada and Europe join us as well. Pass the word!

Even if you are not a big blogging fan you will at least enjoy reading the dialogs and finding interesting information, humor and ideas. And we encourage anyone to jump into a conversation or begin a new one. So, log on now to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ClanMaNeacail> and join us and *you too can Yahoo!* 

---

# 2007 APPOINTMENTS

## JEREMY NICHOLSON

### New Director and State Games Commissioners

---



#### OUR CLAN SOCIETY IS

proud to announce that at its 2007 annual meeting of Directors in Alexandria, Virginia it unanimously elected **Mary Lou Nicolson Klimek** as a new Director.

Mary Lou has worked diligently and successfully for several years as Commissioner first for

Alberta, then for Western Canada. She has traveled extensively on behalf of the Clan Society, including several trips clear across the North American continent.

As a result of my Clan travels in 2007, I am delighted to announce the appointment of the following new State Games Commissioners:

**CRAIG AND BARBARA NICOL, OHIO**  
**KEN AND TAMMY LAWRENCE, UTAH**  
**BOB NICHOLSON, WASHINGTON**

These new Commissioners have amply earned their appointment through their initiative, energy, ability to connect with people, and hard work on behalf of the Clan.

**Craig and Barbara Nicol** have already represented the Clan at two Highland games this year, first in Ohio, then in Ligonier, Pennsylvania. They were helped by their son Zachary and daughter Amanda.

Members of a large McNicol extended family with relatives across Utah, **Ken and Tammy Lawrence** represented the Clan at the Lehi Scottish Festival, the first-ever Clan event in their state. On his own initiative, Ken has launched a Western U.S. Clan regional website (see the relevant article on page 21 of this issue).

**Bob Nicholson**, who recently retired after a 50-year career as Presbyterian Minister, represented the Clan at the 2007 Enumclaw Games south of Seattle (assisted by his wife Elizabeth and two grandsons Colin and Bryce Siguenza). He was recently honored by being appointed Chaplain of The Caledonian & St. Andrew's Society of Seattle.

These new Commissioners are all special, and we are very fortunate to have them. We wish them much success and satisfaction in their work during the years to come.

It is worthwhile to emphasize that all our Commissioners, both new and long-serving, by representing Clan MacNicol at Highland games and festivals in their respective states are the public face (often the only face!) of the Clan. Their importance to our Society's life and growth cannot be overstated.

I look forward to announcing several more appointments in 2008.







From left to right:  
Elizabeth Nicholson, Colin and Bryce Siguenza, Bob Nicholson at Pacific Northwest Highland Games in Enumclaw, Washington (July 2007)



From left to right: Ken Lawrence, Lois Ann Garlitz, Tammy Lawrence at Utah Scottish Festival in Lehi (June 2007)



From left to right: Zachary Nicol, Barbara Nicol, Craig Nicol at Ohio Scottish Games in Wellington (June 2007)

From left to right: Anne Daniel, Mary Lou Nicolson Klimek at Clan dinner in Fergus, Ontario (August 2007)



## 2008 Schedule of Regional Reunions

*Your Clan Society is planning to hold seven regional reunions during the coming year, following its busiest year ever of twelve reunions in 2007. Society President, Jeremy Nicholson, will attend each reunion, along with local State Commissioners as noted.*

*The schedule of reunions for 2008 now stands as follows.*

Clan members are cordially invited to attend any or all of these reunions. Additional states and provinces are being considered for regional reunions this year, depending on demand and local participation. Updated details can be obtained by accessing the North American website [www.clanmacnicol.org](http://www.clanmacnicol.org), or by phoning Jeremy at (770) 650-0905.

Those who would like to obtain a list of Highland games and Scottish festivals in the U.S. should visit the Association of Scottish Games and Festival's website [www.asgf.org](http://www.asgf.org). In addition, the April 2008 Directory issue of The Highlander magazine (Vol. 45, No. 2A) will contain a similar but more extensive list, including events in Canada.

*Please note in parentheses the internet addresses of the games and festivals associated with each reunion.*

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 19–20**  
Winter Springs (near Orlando), Florida with Cliff Wolf and Claudia Finn  
([www.flascot.com](http://www.flascot.com))

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23–24**  
Phoenix, Arizona with Jerry Nichols and Janet Lee  
([www.arizonascots.com](http://www.arizonascots.com))

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, APRIL 19–20**  
Loch Norman (near Huntersville and Charlotte), North Carolina with Brenda and Tom Pritchard, and Joyanne Nicholson Crocker  
([www.lochnorman.org](http://www.lochnorman.org))

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28**  
Wellington (near Cleveland), Ohio with Craig and Barbara Nicol  
([www.ohioscottishgames.com](http://www.ohioscottishgames.com))

**SATURDAY, JULY 19**  
Gresham (near Portland), Oregon  
([www.phga.org](http://www.phga.org))

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 9–10**  
Denver, Colorado with Chris Keffel-Nicholas  
([www.scottishgames.org](http://www.scottishgames.org))

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18–19**  
Stone Mountain (near Atlanta), Georgia with R. Burke and Kerri Nicholson  
([www.smhg.org](http://www.smhg.org))





# New Clan Badge Available for Purchase

Our California Games Commissioner, Dale Nicoll, has commissioned the production of a handsome new Clan Badge. Vetted by the Clan Society Directors and heraldically correct, the Badge is approximately 2 inches in diameter and made of pewter. It can be worn on a man's Balmoral or Glengarry hat, or on a woman's sash as a brooch. Anyone interested purchasing the Badge can contact Dale Nicoll by e-mail at [dalemarilyn@as-tound.net](mailto:dalemarilyn@as-tound.net) or by phone in Concord, CA at (925) 682-5234.

Dale is charging US\$22.00 per badge plus mailing costs. One dollar (\$1) from the sale of each badge will be donated by Dale to the Scorrybreac Fund, Inc. to assist with the maintenance of the Clan Lands on Skye. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Ken Lawrence at the Utah Scottish Festival in Lehi (June 2007)

## New Regional Website in the West

Our new Utah Games Commissioner, Ken Lawrence, has launched a regional website covering the Western states of Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. The website can be found on the internet at <http://clanmacnicolutah.com/default.aspx>. It contains many interesting features, including news of the intermountain West.

Ken and his wife Tammy were appointed the first-ever Games Commissioners for Utah in June 2007. They spearheaded one of the most successful state branch launches in recent memory. Starting with a single family household membership (their own), the Utah branch has quickly expanded to five.

Ken has taken the initiative to look beyond Utah and catalyze growth in the surrounding states. With the two notable exceptions of Arizona and Colorado, the intermountain Western states have had sparse membership and activities since the 1990s. To broaden the website's coverage, Ken has enlisted the support of Kevan Taylor-Perry in Flagstaff, Jerry E. Nichols in Mesa, Christian Keffel-Nicholas in Boulder, and Camille Fatta in Boise. All deserve much credit for their efforts, and we wish them great success. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿





---

# NICOL FAMILY IN DUNEDIN, NEW ZEALAND

**Nicol D.  
Vandever**

**I**N 1856 THE NICOL FAMILY OF Edinburgh, Scotland, consisting of David and Margaret (Smith) Nicol and their seven children, departed on the sailing ship "Strathmore" on 25 June from London and sailed to New Zealand, landing at Port Chalmers on 2 October 1856. My great grandmother Margaret Cairns Nicol was an infant of 9 months of age when they arrived in New Zealand.

David Nicol was born in Fifeshire in 1823 and married Margaret Cairns Smith in Dunfermline, Fifeshire, Scotland in 1845. Margaret was born in Dysart, Fifeshire in 1818. Margaret's father was a builder. David worked as a gardener and lived in the gardener's cottage at the Orphan's Hospital in Edinburgh. They sailed around Cape Horn but their first sight of land since leaving England was Stewart Island. Shortly after arriving David worked as head gardener and manager for Messrs. McAndrew and Reynolds at their Glen Property. Three more children were born in Dunedin.

David owned a property of 181 acres on Flagstaff Road bordering on the early Settlers Road. It is believed David thought the railway would go that way. David and Margaret both owned sections in Dunedin in the Williams, High and Maitland Street area. They lived on Walker Street when they arrived but later moved to 14 Williams Street where they remained until their deaths. Both are buried in the Southern Cemetery, Dunedin.

One member of the Nicol family attained a prominent place in New Zealand history. Helen Lister Nicol was born on 29 May 1854 in Edinburgh, Scotland, the sixth of 10 children of Margaret and David Nicol. When Helen was two years old, the Nicol family left Scotland on the "Strathmore" and arrived in New Zealand in October 1856. They were Free Church settlers and strict Sabbatharians, and Helen remained a staunch church member all her life. She joined a number of temperance organizations; at various times she was

a member of a Band of Hope, the Juvenile Temple, the Independent Order of Good Templars, the Blue Ribbon Army and the New Zealand Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU). Particularly concerned with children, under the auspices of the WCTU she set up the Loyal Temperance Legion, which provided vocational training.

Helen Nicol's zeal for temperance led her to work for the enfranchisement of women. Her aim was for women to elect "Men of good moral character" who would enact prohibition, thereby restoring purity to the home. She argued in favor of women's rights and pointed out the ways in which women were disadvantaged by the law, stating, "We do not want a seat in Parliament, but we do want a vote to put the right kind of men there."

Helen Nicol pioneered the suffrage campaign in Dunedin. She wrote letters to the press and, as superintendent of the franchise department of the Dunedin branch of the WCTU, corresponded with other suffrage leaders, most notably Kate Sheppard and Sir John Hall. The women of Otago returned the highest number of signatures to each suffrage petition. Such work took its toll. Helen Nicol wrote of the weariness she experienced, and Harriet Morison, first vice president and later secretary of the Tailoresses' Union of New Zealand, emphasized that her friend had stood up for suffrage "When to declare one's self a woman's franchist was to bring down on your devoted head the ridicule of most of your friends."


The suffrage campaign in Dunedin was especially bitter because of the vigorous drink lobby led by H.S. Fish, the city's member in the House of Representatives, where he headed the opposition to women's enfranchisement. In 1892 Fish organized a counter-petition to the pro-suffrage petition then being circulated. Confusion was such that Helen Nicol started yet another petition to enable those women who had signed in error, believing that Fish's petition was pro-suffrage, to protest in response to Fish's hostile attacks.

Harriet Morison, assisted by Helen Nicol and other women, founded the Women's Franchise League in Dunedin in 1892. Its sole aim was to  
(NICOL FAMILY, CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE)



win the vote. It reached out to those beyond the temperance lobby and built on Morison's work for the tailoresses' union, tapping the support of the large number of young women working in the clothing establishments in Dunedin. Helen Nicol and Marion Hatton, the league's Dunedin president, held public meetings in rural townships in Otago and Southland. One journalist described Nicol as very tall but with a light voice. After the vote was won on 19 September 1893, Helen Nicol described herself as "One who worked harder than any other woman in the South Island for the extension of the franchise to every woman." She continued to campaign for temperance and was for a time involved with the National Council of Women of New Zealand. Although disappointed that prohibition had not become law, she wrote, "I have never regretted spending the best years of my life in working to secure the enfranchisement of our New Zealand women, and I do feel that it has bettered the position of the workers."

Increased domestic responsibilities curtailed Helen Nicol's public life from 1897. She and her sister, Lavinia, reared three nephews, one of whom spoke of Helen as being "Very, very kind." Helen Nicol had "No respect for the man or woman who neglects the sacred duties that make home happy." In later life she welcomed the new opportunities that arose to promote the welfare of women and children. Helen Nicol never married; she died in Dunedin on 22 November 1932.

There is a monument to her and the suffrage movement on the banks of the Avon River in downtown Christchurch, New Zealand. 

**REFERENCES:**

Grimshaw, P. Women's suffrage in New Zealand. Auckland, 1972

Obit. Otago Daily Times. 28 Nov. 1932

Garner, Jean. 'Nicol, Helen Lyster 1854 - 1932'. Dictionary of New Zealand Biography, updated 7 April 2006

The original version of this biography was published in the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography Volume Two (1870-1900), 1993

(C) Crown Copyright 1993-2006 Published by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Wellington, New Zealand. All Rights Reserved.

**New Jersey**

#Guy and

Heather Williams..... Bordentown FoSL

**New York**

\*#Irene Nicoll Blankschen ..... Bayside

\*J. Dennis Nicol and Gail Clark..... Schenectady

**North Carolina**

\*Ann R. Nicholson..... Middleburg

Robert B. and

Lisa Nichol..... Wilmington (2006-8)

\*#Gerald D. and

Elizabeth McNichols..... Winston-Salem

**Ohio**

\*Peter and Rebecca Nicoll..... Tipp City

\*Cindy Nicoll Hill ..... Cincinnati

**Oklahoma**

\*Kenneth and Carolyn Nicoles ..... Norman

**Pennsylvania**

\*Dale and Polly Nicol..... Indiana

\*Norman D. Nicol..... Shavertown

\*Carolyn M. Moore ..... Telford

Patricia Robinson-Linder ..... Wallingford

**South Carolina**

\*#John V. Nicholson..... Ridgeway

\*William R. and Joan Nicol..... Hilton Head

**Tennessee**

#Christopher and Tracy Riedl..... Knoxville

\*Joan Nicoll Riedl ..... Knoxville

\*#Sandra Nichols Shassere..... Norris

\*#John and Elizabeth

Ann Nicol Evans ..... Powell

#Doug and Robin Harrill ..... Walland

**Texas**

\*Daniel and Susan Regalado..... Hurst

\*David and Diane Marx ..... San Antonio

\*Leo L. Nicholson ..... Sugar Land

**Virginia**

\*Leonard and Sharon Jones..... Fairfax

#John E. and Paula Nichols ..... Fairfax FoSL

\*John T. Nichols..... Manassas

\*Daniel and Katherine Nickell..... Vienna

**Washington**

\*Bruce Craig McNichols ..... Kirkland FoSL

\*#Robert D. and

Elizabeth Nicholson..... Seattle (2008)

**Wisconsin**

William L. Beckman ..... Lake Mills FoSL



(WEDDING, FROM PAGE 8)

There were many entertaining speeches, but none better than the one delivered by Luke's younger brother and Best Man, Adam. He spoke of their strong brotherly friendship, and of the sibling rivalry of their younger days, noting that Luke had finally admitted that he, Adam, was the 'best man'.

Kate was thrilled that her parents, Jan and Bill, her sister, Kelly, and grandparents, Nick and June, were able to be present. All had flown from Florida to attend the wedding and the appearance of her grandparents had been a particularly wonderful surprise for Kate. She had known nothing about this until they had stepped of the plane in Ballina.

The formal part of the ceremony ended with the bridal shuffle (which is the closest Luke could get to a waltz on his painful leg) and dancing into the wee small hours. (Luke had severed his Achilles tendon just before Christmas and had been trying to get around without his crutches in the week leading to the wedding. He used them as little as possible on the wedding day.)

Due to Luke's work commitments and the presence of Kate's family, the newlyweds decided to save their honeymoon for another time. 🏰

(FURTHER DETAILS, FROM PAGE 7)

Burke had a long record of leadership activity in cultural, educational and community affairs, both in Europe and in the United States. For service in these fields, he was awarded the Belgian decorations of Knight of the Order of the Crown and Officer of the Order of Leopold II and the Italian decoration of Commander of the Order of Merit. He also had the unusual distinction of being an Honorary Citizen of Atlanta, his native city, an honor accorded to him in 1957 during his long residence abroad.

In Atlanta, Burke served on the Board of the High Museum of Art where he played a leading role in planning and organizing the expansion of the Museum. He also served on the Boards of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the Woodruff Arts Center, and the Atlanta Council for International Visitors. Both the Museum and the Symphony elevated him to Life Membership on their respective Boards. In 1988, he was appointed to the Georgia Indigent Defense Council by the Supreme Court of Georgia and served for ten years. In 1993 he was made a member and later became Chairman of the Advisory Board of Emory University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences until his retirement in 2003. He was also a member of the English-Speaking Union Atlanta Branch, a member and longtime Chairman of The Symposium (a philosophical society founded in 1898), a trustee of the Atlanta Preservation Center, and a member of the Advisory Board of the Atlanta International School.

An avid golfer, he was a member of the Peachtree Golf Club, the Piedmont Driving Club and the Capital City Club. He was a communicant of St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church.

Burke was the eldest of five brothers and sisters, of whom surviving are Martha Carolyn Nicholson Worley and Charles Beck Harman Nicholson, both of Atlanta. Deceased are John Hurt Nicholson (Atlanta 1992) and Lucia Harman Nicholson Lines (Toronto, Canada 2000).

Funeral services were held on Monday, July 2 at St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church, with many friends and colleagues in attendance, as well as a full complement of his extended family—collectively known as the Nicholsons of Atlanta. The Chief of our Clan, John MacNeacail of Scorrybreac and his wife Jenni, greatly honored Burke's memory by flying over from their home in Ballina, New South Wales, Australia to attend the funeral. After the service, a flock of white doves were released and circled the church twice as they flew away. This unusual and much appreciated gift came from the Canadian Clan MacNicol membership and was organized by Jacques McNicoll of Montreal and Michael Nicholson of Ottawa.

The Chief and his wife then joined the family at a private graveside ceremony by the Nicholson plot at Westview Cemetery. Scorrybreac in a moving gesture removed his Clan tie and placed it as a tribute on Burke's coffin, where the three grandchildren had laid one red rose each—emblematic of Balvenie's annual Baronial due to the sovereign.

Harman Nicholson, Archivist to the Chief of the Highland Clan MacNeacail, and long-standing benefactor to the Clan on three continents, succeeded his older brother Burke as holder of the Castle and Barony of Balvenie. 🏰

## NEW ARRIVALS



### OZMA VALENTINE BRYANT

California members, Michael A. Bryant and Rebecca A. Valentino, announce with great pleasure the birth of their daughter Ozma Valentine Bryant on August 29, 2006 in Vallejo, California.

Ozma has already attended her first Clan Reunion and Highland Games at Pleasanton on September 1, 2007. She looked adorable and behaved perfectly despite the heat and large crowds!



### EMILIENNE DANIELLE TURBIDE

Our Florida Games Commissioner, Julie Nicholson Turbide and her husband André, are thrilled to report the arrival of their daughter Emilienne Danielle

Turbide on September 12, 2007 in Wesley Chapel, Florida.

Emilienne had a difficult time during the first two weeks of her life. After intensive treatment, her health stabilized and her entire family is looking forward to spending the holidays with her.

