

The Pollag
November 2015

"A person who takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors cannot expect to be remembered for his noble deeds by remote descendants."

Pollock, Pollok, Pook, Polk, Polke, Paulk, Poalk, Poalke, Poulk, Poole, Pogue

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Audacter et Strenue
Boldly and Strongly

CLAN POLLOCK INTERNATIONAL

THE POLLAG

Cinnedah Pollag -- A Pool of Information

Words from the President...



Another year is coming to an end – seems like the time just flies by! As always, we want to thank everyone who helps keep our organization going – our members, our officers, our Pollag editors – all who help in any way! Thank you for your interest in and support of Clan Pollock.

We are making plans for 2016 and hope to have Annual General Meetings at the Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina July 7 - 10 and at the Estes Park Games in Colorado September 9 - 11. These two games have our largest attendance. We would like to have as many of our members as possible to be at one (or both) of these Games. Our plans are to have a dinner at both of these meetings – more information forthcoming!

Please continue to send your news for upcoming Pollags. Also remember, if you move or change your e-mail address, be sure and let us know so we can change our mailing list. We don't want you to miss any issues.

January will soon be here and it will be time for annual dues. Our dues are US \$15.00 a year or US \$16.00 a year if you pay by Pay Pal. We have had some gift memberships given this year to family members – that would make a nice gift for someone in your family. Our best wishes to all our members for a Happy Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock
Written October 26, 2015

MEMBER (and FRIENDS) NEWS

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<https://www.facebook.com/ClanPollock>

Pollag Deadline.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of The Pollag is the 25th of the month previous to the issue. The Pollag is issued in February, May, August and November. Remember Clan Pollock members enjoy hearing your news. Send your news, to the editor, Beth Avery, at averyb@otherwhen.com

NEW MEMBERS

Steve and Nancy (Polk) Deshazo, Fort Myers, FL
C. Andy Polk, Washington, D.C. *Rejoin
Rhonda J. Pollock, Estes Park, CO *Rejoin
Joanna H. Rohr, Superior, CO

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Ronald H. Pollock, Sun City, AZ

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Happy Anniversary: Arlene & Barney Polk, Englewood, CO. celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with their family and on their wedding day.



New Fourth Generation Clan Pollock

Member Congratulations to our newest Clan Pollock member. Nora Ann Pollock was born October 5, 2015. Proud parents are Clan Pollock member, Christopher and Beth Pollock. Proud grandparents are Clan Pollock member Mark and Dianne Pollock and proud great-grandfather is Clan Pollock member Norman Pollock. We look forward to meeting Miss Nora Ann next year at the Games at Estes Park.



Clan Pollock Archer: Clan Pollock member Mary L. Anderson at Frolik In The Glen in Fortuna, CA on September 19, 2015. Mary writes, "I am trying to keep the archery tradition alive." It's good to see her showing off the Clan tartan





Congratulations to the Graduate

Denise R. Turner Thomas, Doctor of Nursing Practice, (granddaughter of Viola Pollock) graduated from Brandman University in May 2015. Her dissertation researched the impact of implementing an electronic Modified Early Warning System (MEWS) within a patient’s electronic health record. The MEWS identifies hospitalized patients, using heart rate, respiratory rate, blood pressure and alertness, who are at risk for developing a life-threatening event. Early identification of patients at risk allows health care providers opportunities for early intervention and prevention. The results of this study demonstrated a decrease in life threatening events by 40%. This September, Denise presented this study at the “European Doctoral Conference in Nursing Science” in Graz, Austria. An amazing cultural and scientific experience, the conference allowed for the exchange of ideas and collegiate sharing. As a result, one presenter, from Aberdeen, Scotland, has agreed to present her research to the nurses at Denise’s hospital in Santa Rosa, California.



BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

- 4 – Nancy P. Woolford
- 7 – Beverly J. Oleson
- 9 – Norman D. Pollock
- 10 – Nancy P. Haga
- 11 – Travis B. Scobey
- 13 – Joanna H. Rohr
- 14 – Billy F. Anderson
- 15 – James Pollock; W. Field Pollock
- 18 – Denise T. Thomas; Shane L. Pollock
- 19 – Dean B. Pollock
- 20 – Susan L. Pollock
- 23 – Howard W. Pollock
- 31 – Robert J. Pollock

JANUARY

- 1 – Mollie P. Jessup; Paul D. Layman; Stephen J. Pollock
- 4 – Ruth Woodward
- 5 – Charles A. Pollock; Tim Stone
- 6 – Thomas E. Polk
- 7 – Irene Fleming
- 8 – Elva G. Pollock-Arnold

- 9 – Fred H. Pollock; John B. Pollock
- 11 – William K. Stevens
- 12 – John T. R. Pollock; Fraser I. Pollock
- 16 – Christine B. Halliwell; Robert P. Pollock
- 17 – Joseph E. Griffin
- 18 – Jimmy Pollock; H. Ben Stone
- 20 – Matthew D. Pollock
- 21 – Armando Pollock; Curtis J. Pogue
- 24 – Marcia Baker; Nancy Beardslee
- 25 – Elizabeth G. Anastasia
- 26 – John c. Crothers III; Susan E. Strickland
- 28 – Alex J. Pollock; Alma B. Richards
- 29 – Michael R. Sleigh

FEBRUARY

- 6 – Frank D. Pollock
- 12 – T. Kathy Grant
- 13 – William E. Pollock
- 15 – Thomas W. Poage; John C. Pollock; Shelia M. Pollock
- 19 – Larry F. Polk; John M. Pogue; Mark P. Pollock
- 20 – Revis A. Morton
- 24 – Milbry Polk
- 28 – Sally Brace

If you don't see your birthday listed, please let us know. We don't want to leave any of our members out. Thanks.
Clara Ann Pollock, Clan Pollock Secretary, apollockis@comcast.net

NEWS OF THE GAMES

UPCOMING GAMES

Central Florida Scottish Highland Games January 16-17

Join Clan Pollock on Saturday, January 16 and Sunday, January 17th as they celebrate the 39th Annual Central Florida Scottish Highland Games. This is the fourth consecutive year that Clan Pollock has attended the games. With each year, we've met new Pollocks, Polks, etc. and would love to see some familiar faces as well. The highlight of the weekend is when Clan Pollock takes to the field en masse for the parade of clans at noon each day. We truly show our numbers and proudly show the crowds who we are. If you're interested in joining in on the fun (walking with us for the parade of clans) or would like to volunteer for an hour or two at the Clan Pollock tent, please email brentdeshazo@yahoo.com.



GAME REPORTS

Loch Norman Games Huntersville, NC April 17-19, 2015



The Games started Friday night with the calling go the Clans. Tim missed it while on a food run to Chilli's. . The food was 45 minutes coming out. However, it was much appreciated when it finally arrived. Saturday the field was very muddy. It may have deterred some folks from coming out to the games. We had two visitors to the tent . One was lady form San Diego whose mother was a Pollock. She is a Clan member. She was visiting her daughter in Charlotte. The other was a member of another Clan whose mother was a Pollock.



Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Festival Estes Park, CO September 10-13, 2015

This year's Longs Peak Scottish-Irish Highland Festival Games have come and gone once again. I think a great time was had by all. Friday was a good day with several folks stopping by. We enjoyed seeing Bob and Veva Pollock and also cousins Jim and Terry Pollock and Bill and Diana Pollock. Denise and Mark Thomas and Denise's mother, Delores Turner, were with us all three days.

Saturday morning we had a good turnout for the parade through downtown Estes Park. New member Kelly Loy, husband Michael, and daughter Willow all marched and helped out with the Pollock banner and also the gentle giant Pollock dogs Mark and Christopher marched along with patriarch, Norm, and Vicki Pollock, "mother" of the dogs. Dog "Dad", Matt Pollock had suffered an injury refereeing a football game on Fri night so he had to be a parade spectator. The rest of Saturday back at Clan Pollock's tent saw lots of visitors come by as well – good to see Paul Layman, our Illinois Commissioner; Palmer Mark Pollock and their sister; Suzanne Pollock MacAulay and others. The Loys





helped with the Opening Ceremony parade also.

We enjoyed being next to Clan Maxwell again this year. The Morse family – Max, Jean & Todd – are great neighbors.

Thanks to Clan Pollock member, Kent Woodward, Clan Coordinator for these Games. Kent and Peggy do a great job every year. It's not easy keeping that many Clans satisfied!

When it came time to put everything away for another year on Sunday

afternoon, Matt and Mark Pollock helped a lot with supervision from Norm. We don't want to leave anyone out – thank you to everyone who helped! We couldn't do it without you and we look forward to seeing everyone next year – same time, same place!

~ A. D. and Clara Pollock



Chicago Scots, 29th ANNUAL SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES June 19-20, 2015



A few more pictures following up on the report in the last issue.



THE GENEALOGY TREE

When you joined Clan Pollock International you were asked to fill out a Pedigree Chart that you have been sent and to return the completed form via email to me. If you have not sent your genealogical history to me--DICKPOLL@aol.com---please do so at your convenience. If you want another blank chart, just email me and I'll send it to you. Above all else, we need your input to bring the Clan Pollock Database up to date. Thank you for your cooperation.

Member Laverne Raisch is trying to locate two bibles described as "Pollock Bible at Warsaw, NC in the custody of J. A. Pollock" and "Ward Bible at Newbern, NC in the custody of A. D. Ward." It has been several years since these two bibles were identified and Laverne would appreciate it if anyone knowing the current whereabouts of these bibles to let her know--email me and I'll pass the information on to her.

Robert Parrish is developing a "family tree" from Morris Pollok, Jr. to relatives currently residing in various locations around Virginia. He is also trying to identify the two brothers from whom Morris inherited a silk factory in Glasgow, Scotland. I am working with Robert on this study, and we would appreciate it you know of any Polloks in the Virginia area who fit the above description---please pass along the information.

Richard H. Pollock, Genealogist
Clan Pollock international

Historian's Corner

The first Polloks in Ireland

Many Clan Pollock members trace their roots directly back to Scotland, but probably just as many of us trace our ancestry through Ireland, and are what is known as "Scotch-Irish." In its simplest sense, this just means that our ancestors were originally Scottish, but at some point migrated to Ulster, in the north of Ireland, where they settled for one or more generations before moving on to America. The Scotch-Irish were notoriously strong supporters of the American cause during the Revolution and are sometimes characterized as having been "distilled in Scotland, bottled in Ireland, and uncorked in America." The descendants of Scots who remained in Ireland are usually referred to as Ulster Scots.

The history of the Ulster Scots, and Scotch-Irish, begins with the Plantation of Ulster in the 17th century after James I confiscated and redistributed the lands of the O'Donnells, O'Neils, and other Irish following the "Flight of the Earls" in 1607. Settlers were brought in from both England and Scotland under Undertakers (investors) and Servitors (former soldiers) who were given grants of land. The major areas of Scottish settlement were in County Tyrone and western Donegal. A really good map illustrating this scheme can be seen at <http://geogenealogy.ca/ulsterscots/PLANTATION%20MAPS/ALL%20PLANTERS.htm>

The question of which Polloks participated in this scheme is a hard one to answer because so few records of that era have survived, or were recorded in the first place. What we do have from the 17th century are muster rolls, hearth rolls and civil surveys. The first mention of Polloks, or related name, are in the muster rolls of men and arms in Ulster, taken about 1630. These are recorded in "Men and Arms, The Ulster settlers, c.1630" a recent book by R. J. Hunter, a well-known scholar of the Plantation, now deceased. It lists about 20 individuals with names varying from Pock to Poke to Pollock distributed throughout Ulster, including counties Tyrone, Londonderry, Fermanagh, Donegal, Antrim and Down.

In another recent book, "Strabane Barony during the Ulster Plantation, 1607-1641," also by R. J. Hunter, we have a new candidate for the first appearance of a Pollok in Ulster. This mentions "James Pooke" as a merchant at Strabane, County Tyrone, who along with others "all of the Scotch nation or descent," was granted a certificate of denization, by James I in 1617. These grants, equivalent to what we would now call naturalization, provided "that they be free from the yoke of Scotch or Irish servitude, and enjoy the rights and privileges of English subjects." The date of the grant is 14 August in the 14th year of James I's reign (1617). The original documents were lost in the Dublin Courthouse fire of 1922, but a list of persons issued such certificates appears in Calendar of the Patent Rolls of the Reign of James I, p.306-7. James Pock, probably the same individual, is also listed on the plantation of undertaker Sir William Hamilton in the Barony of Strabane in the 1630 Muster Roll, armed with sword and pike.

Strabane was one of the Scottish plantation settlements that grew quickly as an urban center after its incorporation in 1613. This was primarily due to the leadership and energy of James Hamilton, Earl of Abercorn and undertaker for Strabane, who came from Paisley, in Renfrewshire, Scotland. Dr. Hunter makes the following comment on this: "Strabane was thus fulfilling the trading needs of the Scottish colony of which it was the urban focus. The few surviving records of this trade show it to have been with Renfrew in Scotland, near to the home district of the Earl of Abercorn."

Renfrewshire is of course also the home of Polloks in Scotland, so it is quite reasonable to suppose that it was the origin of James Pooke, the merchant of Strabane. Polloks and Hamiltons in fact resided in the adjacent lands of

Overpollok, Mearns and Fingalton in the Eastwood District of Renfrewshire.

Strabane was located directly across the Foyle River from Lifford and Ballendrait, so it is also reasonable to ask whether this James Pooke was the father or grandfather of Robert Polke who married Magdalen, the daughter of Roger Tasker of Ballendrait. Robert and Magdalen and their family left for Maryland about 1687 and were the progenitors of a great many Polks and Pollocks in America. We can't be sure, but this is a plausible line to connect Robert Polke directly back to the Pollocks of Renfrewshire, based on an actual, documented, person of Pollok or similar name in Ulster, at the right time and place.

John F. Polk, Ph.D.
Clan Historian

MAKE THE UNSUNG HEROES SING!

An emerging opera about Gálvez will give Oliver Pollock a place on stage By Marec Bela Steffens, Hamburg/Houston

"I have no knowledge of a rebel agent residing in my provincial capital, and that his name should be Oliver. The only Oliver I know is Oliver Pollock, an honest trader born in Ireland." Thus replied Bernardo de Gálvez, the Spanish crown's governor of Louisiana, to British allegations that the American colonists, fighting to win their independence, got all kinds of support from right under the governor's nose.

These were serious allegations. In this phase of the American War of Independence, Spain was still neutral. What is more, the allegations were very true. In *Clan Pollock* you are well aware that Bernardo de Gálvez not only knew Oliver Pollock, but closely collaborated with him. They were pivotal figures in a big operation that provided the American fighters with much-needed gunpowder and other military necessities on behalf of the Spanish and French governments.

And Gálvez would not leave it at that. As soon as Spain had declared war, he sallied out, capturing one fort after the other on the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, in Baton Rouge, Mobile, and Pensacola. Oliver Pollock fought at his side. Thus they kept the limeys busy, and the trade routes open for further supplies to George Washington. The city of Galveston is named after Bernardo de Gálvez, and he is one of only eight honorary citizens of the United States.

An organisation called *Los Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez*, founded in 1975, has been honouring this valiant man. They have a Houston Chapter whose governor John Espinosa, knowing me as a writer and librettist, approached me: shouldn't there be an opera about Bernardo de Gálvez? I assured him there should, and started writing a libretto.

I have read an entire bookshelf of books and articles on Gálvez, and of course one of the first figures I met was Oliver Pollock. He helped the Americans, using his personal wealth so liberally that he ended up in debtor's prison, where Gálvez had to come to his rescue.

On the other side of the ocean, a Frenchman called Pierre de Beaumarchais made the same experience, while being involved in the same operation: "I thought these Americans fight for their freedom, ergo they are idealists, ergo they will pay their debts. Little did I know!"

This Beaumarchais is the very same who wrote the plays "The Barber of Sevilla" and "The Marriage of Figaro" on which Rossini's and Mozart's operas are based. So there is a connection between Gálvez, Pollock and the world of opera!

But no opera about them yet. These three historic figures had such a rich life, action-loaded, full of lively anecdotes and quotations from their speeches and letters – they are crying to become part of an opera!

Of my libretto, so far I have two complete scenes, and an outline for the rest. I have read this to the Houston Chapter and to the National Meeting of *Los Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez*. It was greeted with great enthusiasm.

We are in the process of finding a composer (a few ideas we already have) and of appointing a grant writer. Writing and producing an opera is quite a challenge. Our first aim is to put a showcase production together, 2-3 scenes with music, and the rest read in parts from the libretto, to give the public a foretaste and to show that we are well under way. *Clan Pollock* is invited to become part of this endeavour!

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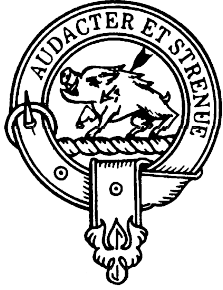
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Clan Pollock International

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Motto: Boldly and Strongly



George Square, Glasgow. 2014
<http://www.bit.ly/1LOWM7S>

A Grace Before Dinner

**O Thou who kindly dost provide
For every creature's want!
We bless Thee, God of Nature wide,
For all thy goodness lent.
And, if it please Thee, heavenly Guide,
May never worse be sent;
But, whether granted or denied,
Lord bless us with content.**

Robert Burns