

CLAN POLLOCK



MOTTO
Audacter et Strenue
Bold and Strong

Volume 2
No. 2

POLLOCK, POLLOK, POOK, POLK, POLKE, PAULK, POALK, POALKE, POULK,
POOLKE, POGUE

" 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."

- Editor's Corner -

I had the good fortune this year to attend the games at Grandfather Mountain. What a wonderful experience. The pageantry, sounds, and color of the games, set against the green mountains of North Carolina, is memorable. But the greatest pleasure for me was the opportunity to be with friends, kith and kin, and to have the opportunity to meet new people. More about the games later on.

I have been informed that all of the Pollock clan badges have been sold. I am making enquiries to determine costs involved in having some more made, perhaps in sterling silver.



CINNEADH POLLAG

POLLAG
A POOL OF INFORMATION
30 August 1987

A reminder to those of you who have not sent a check to Rosemary Pollock for your 1987 dues. We need your dues in order to retain you on the clan roles. Each of us must carry their share of the financial obligations of the clan. When submitting your dues, please use the form provided at the end of this edition of the Pollag.

Later this summer I will be mailing a clan roster to everyone. When it arrives, please check your name and address to ensure it is correct. If incorrect, please let me know "straight away" so that a correction to the roster can be made.

I have selected some topics to research for future editions of the Pollag. Among others these include articles on Leonidas Polk, Episcopal Bishop and general in the Civil War; Thomas Pollock, colonial governor of North Carolina; James Pollock, governor of Pennsylvania; Oliver Pollock, American patriot of the Revolutionary War; and some additional information on James K. Polk, President of the United States, emphasizing his accomplishments while in the White House. If anyone has any information on these topics, or would like to write an article

for the Pollag on one of these or any other appropriate topic, I invite you to participate. My only request is that you take reasonable precautions to ensure that the information is historically accurate and free from personal bias, not always an easy task. Family histories are sometimes written by people who, being naturally biased, tend to exaggerate the particulars of a deed or episode. An informed opinion or a wee exaggeration, of course, can be included so long as it is so identified.

NEW MEMBERS

We have fifteen new members to welcome in this edition of the Pollag. This is a new record for a single issue. Welcome to each and all of you. We hope that you will enjoy your association with the clan. The new members are:

Gladys P. Fowler

975 N.E. Vestridge St.
North Port FL 33596

Eva P. Hamilton

350 Heather Dr.
Bristol, VA 24201

Joan R. Herrick

111 E. Mill St.
Kewanee, IL 61443

David M. Hoffmann

2122 N. 53rd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Dean B. Hoffmann

8435 N. 51st St.
Brown Deer WI 53223

Donald A. Hoffmann

2617 Redlands Dr.
Costa Mesa, CA 92627

David L. Hutcheson

Route 7, Box 394
Boone, NC 28607

Marsha L. Love

2000 S. Ocean Blvd. Apt. 402
Delray Beach, FL 33483

Kathleen M. McCurdy

2760 Southwood Dr.
East Lansing, MI 38823

Ruth K. Mustain

1925 W. Northwood
Bolivar MO 65613

Betty Pollock

3166 Neal Ave. #4
San Jose, CA 95117

John M. Pollock

4332 Crestknoll
Grand Blanc MI 48439

Kenneth W. Pollock

1780 Austin Ave.
Coquitlam B.C. Canada V3K 3R1

Robert C. Pollock

108 Lindenwood Dr.
Michigan City, IN 46360

Isabel Van Dyke

912 Western Ave.
Petaluma, CA 94952

- Flower's O' The Forest -

It is with deep regret I report the passing of two members of our clan.

Carl W. Pollock of Charleston, South Carolina, passed away on 26 August 1986. Carl was one of the first members of our clan, joining it soon after it was founded by Rhys Pollock.

Gertrude Pollock of North Port, Florida, passed away on 8 June 1986 after a long battle with cancer. In this issue of the Pollag we welcomed to Clan Pollock Gertrude's sister, Gladys Fowler.

Our deepest condolences go out to all the members of their families.

- Grandfather Mountain -

Thanks to the graciousness of Rob Pollock, I had the distinct pleasure of carrying the Clan Pollock banner in the Parade of Tartans at Grandfather Mountain this year. It was an honor for me. There were many who attended who are members of the clan. Robert Pollock from Hickory, NC, attended with his father, a fine old gentleman from Maryland. It was a real pleasure for me to meet them as well as to meet Nancy Nash of North Tazewell, Virginia, for the first time. Nancy is going to do some additional research

to determine a way for us to computerize our clan genealogy files. Following the Kirkin' O' the Tartan on Sunday morning, the Flower's O' the Forest ceremony is held. The names of those who have passed away during the year and the name of their clan are read. This year the names of William Clay Pollock and Carl W. Pollock from our clan were announced. A solemn ceremony, it is a very thoughtful and impressive way of spending a few minutes remembering those who have gone on.

- Mary, Queen of Scots -

This year, 1987, marks the 400th anniversary of the death of one of the most controversial monarchs in the history of Scotland. Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, daughter of James V of Scotland, led a life full of events which shaped her destiny as well as the destiny of Scotland. Even under the close scrutiny of historians over the past four hundred years, many of the events which occurred during her reign are not well understood. She was destined to lead a tragic life. Despite her royal birth, she was at times throughout her life, imprisoned and subjected to indignities not befitting a Queen. Forced to flee to England, she was imprisoned, tried, found guilty, and executed by order of the English monarch, Elizabeth I.

During the period of her reign in Scotland, the Scottish nobility was far from unanimous in their support. Her inability to unite them behind her cause was eventually to lead to the Battle of Langside and her downfall.

In 1568, Mary was imprisoned at Lochleven Castle by her illegitimate half-brother, James Stewart, Earl of Moray. Moray proclaimed himself Regent, to rule until Mary's infant son, James, was crowned King of Scotland. On the night of 2 May 1568, Mary managed to escape from the castle and to flee southward toward Glasgow. Word of her escape soon reached her supporters and within a matter of ten days a sizeable army had gathered near the village of Langside in Renfrewshire, not far from the castle residence of Pollock of Pollock. Among those who rallied to her support were Lord Herries along with his Border

Horsemen, Lord Claud Hamilton, chief of Clan Hamilton, and members of his clan, and the Earl of Argyle, chief of Clan Campbell. She was to be joined by a number of Highlanders under the command of George Gordon, 5th Earl of Huntly. Heavy rains in the Highlands, however, swelled the creeks and rivers and prevented him from arriving in time for the battle.

Moray and his army soon arrived. His forces were less numerous than those of Mary's so her captains urged her to attack. Because he had contributed the most men, Argyle was named commander of Mary's army. As the day's events were to prove, the choice was an extremely poor one, for the Battle of Langside was to be the last for Mary and for many of her supporters. She was never again to have the opportunity to regain the throne of Scotland.

She was joined on the morning of the battle by Lord Maxwell with his contingent of men. According to one source, she knighted him soon after he arrived, the last such honor she was to bestow. [Editor's Note - Whom did Pollock of Pollock support in this controversy? As traditional allies of the Maxwells, he may have supported Mary's cause. Obviously the nobility of that day had much to gain or lose in struggles over occupation of the throne. Backing the losing party could cost a nobleman his fortune, his liberty, and his life. To remain neutral in such struggles was a dangerous position. Alliances with other powerful nobles were essential to preserving life and property. So given the presumption that he was physically well and able to travel the short distance to

the village of Langside, he might have been at Lord Maxwell's side.]

Lord Hamilton led his force of clansmen into the village of Langside accompanied by Lord Herries and his Border Horsemen. After gaining some initial success, the small vanguard of the army was abruptly stopped. Outnumbered, the vanguard soon needed the immediate support of the main body of Mary's army, under command of Argyle, to prevent disaster. To the great consternation of all, Argyle failed to commit the main body to support the attack. The vanguard was soon routed and forced to flee for their lives. Argyle's failure to act has never been fully and satisfactorily explained. It was claimed that at the time he should have given the attack order, he was the subject of an epileptic fit. No one seems to know the truth of the matter. In any case, Mary's forces were overwhelmingly, and probably unnecessarily, defeated by the forces of Moray.

Mary watched the battle from a small nearby hill. Upon recognizing that a defeat was inevitable, she realized her own safety lay in flight. The nearest safe haven was Dumbarton Castle on the west coast of Scotland. There she could safely sail by ship back to France. Mary realized, however, that in order to reach the castle she would have to travel a dangerous route largely controlled by her enemies. She decided, reluctantly, to flee southward. Accompanied by, among others, the Lords Herries, Maxwell and Hamilton, Mary fled to Herries' castle of Corrae. After a short stay, she then fled further southward to Terregles, one of the castles in the south of Scotland belonging to Lord Maxwell. It was at Terregles Mary made her fateful

decision to flee to England and to place her future in the hands of the English Queen, Elizabeth I.

Mary and her party then proceeded to Dundrennan Abbey on the coast of the Firth of Solway between England and Scotland. There, despite the arguments of Lord Maxwell and others, she boarded a small boat bound for the English shore. She was accompanied by a small party which included Herries, Maxwell, and Hamilton. The date was Sunday, 16 May 1587, two weeks after her escape from Lochleven. Mary was never again to set foot in Scotland. Soon after her arrival in England, Elizabeth ordered that she be imprisoned. Mary was to remain a prisoner for almost 19 years before she was finally brought to trial in October 1586.

Elizabeth feared Mary's potential power, considering her a threat to her throne. Most historians believe the threat was more imagined than real. It is certainly true that Mary had more than sufficient troubles retaining her Scottish throne without seeking that of mighty England. Elizabeth's death at the time, however, would have provided Mary with a valid claim to the English throne. Elizabeth was unmarried and had no children. In such case, Mary's claim would stem from her birth as the great-great-granddaughter of Henry VIII. Elizabeth was the great-granddaughter of Henry VIII. The claim was sustained when Mary's son James became King James VI of Scotland and James I of England.

At Mary's trial she was found guilty of "compassing and imagining since June 1st matters tending to the death and destruction of the Queen of England." Most historians have concluded there is no evidence,

circumstantial or otherwise, to support the charge. Mary was sentenced to death.

On the day of her execution, Mary calmly bid her servants and her ladies-in-waiting a last farewell. Throughout the long years of her imprisonment, Mary never wavered in her attitude toward her captors. She steadfastly conducted herself as a person of noble birth and a true queen. She faced her execution in the same way, without a trace of fear.

As was the custom of that day, the executioners asked Mary to forgive them for bringing about her death. Mary stated "I forgive you with all

my heart, for now I hope you shall make an end to all my troubles."

On Wednesday at 10 o'clock in the morning of 8 February 1587 at Fotheringhay Castle, nineteen years after the Battle of Langside, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded.

- Recommended Reading -

Much of the material used in the preparation of this article was gleaned from an excellent book entitled "Mary Queen of Scots" by Antonia Fraser. I heartily recommend it to anyone inclined to learn more about Mary Stuart and the role she played in the land of our Scottish ancestors.

- Schedule of Events -

- September -

Capital District Scottish Games
Altamont Fairgrounds
Altamont, NY 5

Long's Peak Highland Festival
Park by Lake
Estes Park, CO 11-13

Ligonier Highland Games
Idlewild Park
Ligonier, PA 12

New Hampshire Highland Game
Loon Mountain Recreation Center
Lincoln, NH 18-20

Tulsa Scottish Games
Page Belcher Park
Tulsa, OK 19

Scottish Country Fair
Pipersville, PA 19

San Diego Highland Games
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 19

Fresno Highland Games
Coombs Ranch
Fresno, CA 19

Amherst Museum Scottish Festival
Old Colony Park
East Amherst, NY 19

Charleston Scottish Games
Middleton Place Plantation
Charleston, SC 19

Alabama Scottish Gathering
Wetumpka, AL 25-27

Williamsburg Scottish Festival
Jamestown Festival Park
James City County, VA 26

- October -

Flora MacDonald Highland Games
Red Springs, NC 3-4

St. Andrew's Society of Connecticut
Highland Games
White Memorial Center
Litchfield, CT 3

Stone Mountain Highland Games
Stone Mountain Park
Atlanta, GA 17-18

Scottish Cultural Society Fair
Irish/American Heritage Center
Chicago, IL 24-25

Waxhaw Scottish Games
Waxhaw, NC 31

- November -

11th Annual Thistle Fair
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Staten Island, NY 6-7

International Fall Festival
St. Joseph Hospital Grounds
Port Charlotte, FL 7-8

Tucson Highland Games
Reid Park
Tucson, AZ 13-15

Illinois St. Andrew's Society
Feast of the Haggis
Chicago Hilton Towers and Hotel
Chicago, IL 21

Gulf Coast Highland Games
Hiller Park
Biloxi, MS 21

Until next time.

Aye,

Bill

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DUES FOR YEAR _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE & ZIP CODE _____

Please make your check payable to Clan Pollock. Dues are \$10.00 per year.

Mail to: Rosemary Pollock
8228 Bald Eagle Ln.
Wilmington, NC 28405