

**The Pollag**  
**August 2022**

*"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**

**Officers**

**Archie. D. (A.D) Pollock**

**President**

P. O. Box 404  
Greenville, Kentucky 42345  
615-406-1182  
[apollockis@comcast.net](mailto:apollockis@comcast.net)

Vacant

**Vice President**

**Clara Ann Pollock**

**Secretary**

P. O. Box 404  
Greenville, Kentucky 42345  
615-406-1182  
[apollockis@comcast.net](mailto:apollockis@comcast.net)

**Howard W. Pollock**

**Treasurer**

7676 Mistyglen Ave.  
Boise, ID 83709  
208-830-9760  
[ClanPollockTreas@gmail.com](mailto:ClanPollockTreas@gmail.com)



*Audacter et Strenue*  
**Boldly and Strongly**

# CLAN POLLOCK INTERNATIONAL

## THE POLLAG

**Cinnedah Pollag -- A Pool of Information**

## Words from the President...



Welcome to Summer! Despite the heat, drought and Covid variants, we hope you are all doing well.

Thanks to Richard Anderson and the rest of the people who helped make the Grandfather Mountain Games earlier in July a big success. Clan Pollock has had a tent at these Games since 1980 when we became a separate Clan after being a sept of Clan Maxwell. Many of our departed members worked and attended these Games over the past 42 years.

If any of you are planning a trip to Scotland in the future be sure and made Glasgow a stop. There are many places in and around Glasgow with family ties to Pollok/Pollock.

Pollock Castle site, the Church at Mearns, Langside Battle Site, Paisley Abbey and Pollok Country Park are among some of the areas of interest. Pollok House, located in Pollok Park was the home of the Maxwells for many years. This Park is located in Pollok, not named for a Pollok. There is a long article and beautiful pictures of Pollok Park in the July issue of Scotland magazine, "the World's leading Scottish-interest magazine". (It is well worth the \$39.95 a year cost for 6 issues.)

"Pollok Country Park, in Glasgow, is home to one of the greatest art collections in the world and a grand Georgian stately home, both of which were gifted to the city. The Park is Glasgow's largest green space." For more information go to <http://burrellcollection.com> and <http://nts.org.uk/visit/places/pollok-house>

As always, we solicit your input for items of interest for the Pollag. Please let us know of any changes in your address and/or email. Also if you don't see your birthday listed, please let us know. We don't want to leave anyone out.

*A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock*

Written July 26, 2022

## Historian

**John. F. Polk, Jr.**

908 Lapidum Rd.

Harve De Grace, MD 21078

410-939-0047

[jfpolk@comcast.net](mailto:jfpolk@comcast.net)

## Genealogist

**Richard H. Pollock**

12507 Old Henry Road

Louisville, KY 40223

[mrrichardhp@gmail.com](mailto:mrrichardhp@gmail.com)

## Editor: The Pollag

**Beth Pollock Avery**

655 Janece Dr.

Grand Junction, CO 81505

940-312-2776

[averyb@otherwhen.com](mailto:averyb@otherwhen.com)

## Clan Pollock Web Site

<http://www.clanpollock.com/>

## Clan Pollock Facebook Page

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

## Pollag Deadline.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of The Pollag is the 25<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:averyb@otherwhen.com)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## SEPTEMBER

3 – William Harmon

4 – John F. Polk; Richard S. Pollock

7 – A.D. Pollock, Jr.

9 – Bruce W. Pollock

12 – Charity G. Pollock

13 – Richard A. Pollock

15 – Roy W. Pollock

19 – Bruce W. Pollock

20 – Suzanne P. MacAuley

22 – Carol Pollock; Dennis L. Burton

23 – Edna N. Bates

26 – Robert E. Pollock

30 – Elizabeth A. Ploghoft; Donald R. Pollock; Debra Pollock-Wainwright

## OCTOBER

8 – Robert C. Polk

11 – Michael A. Sisinger

13 – Patricia A. Hardison

15 – Janet Hinton

18 – John C. Lyon

21 – Kay Pogue Fairbanks

22 – Elizabeth P. Bruch; Rosalie Dressler; Harding Polk II

24 – Judit S. Garman

28 – Debra E. Peters

29 – Chrystin P Pleasants

31 – J. Andy Pollock

## NOVEMBER

5 – Joshua N. Pollock

11 – Linda L. Tiffany; Rebecca J. Pacey

12 – Jim L. Pollock; Robert Bruce Pollock

14 – Lori A. Lane; James W. Pogue, Jr.

15 – Olene P. LeFevre

16 – Charlene P. Young

18 – Todd A. McGeehan; Judith P. Palmer; Lisa Thompson

21 – Gerald W. Polk; Virginia T. Watson

23 – Penelope L. Johnson

24 – Brittany Gefroh

25 – Gail P. Carden; John A. Main

26 – Perry W. Polk

27 – James W. Pogue; Novalea P. O'Brien

28 – Keith G. Pollock; Roy S. Thompson

29 – William L. Pollock

If you don't see your birthday listed, please let us know. We don't want to leave any of our members out. There are several newer members that we don't have birth dates for yet. Thanks. Clara Ann Pollock, Clan Pollock Secretary, [apollockis@comcast.net](mailto:apollockis@comcast.net)

## NEW MEMBERS

Donald A. Gordner, Williamsport, PA

Charity G. Pollock, English, Ind

## FIND US ON

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

The Web: <https://www.clanpollock.com>

# NEWS OF THE GAMES

## GAME REPORTS

### Grandfather Games 2022



Another Pollock presence at the Grandfather Mountain Games has come and gone. We have been a constant presence since 1980. Our Pollock turnout was great with at least 15 Pollocks under the tent at one time.

Andrew Banks assisted me in hosting and in the pouring rain marched representing us in the closing Clan presentation. His two daughters accompanied him during that slog around the track. Andrew has agreed to assume the bulk of hosting duties starting next year.



The Eastern Carolina Pollocks were well represented. Andrew's Mom and his wife hosted our hospitality tent and with help from the Pogues kept snacks and drinks flowing. The Eastern Carolina families updated our people about a Pollock family reunion that is still held annually. We will send out information on this event as it becomes available.



There was an annual meeting of The Council of Scottish Clans in America during the games. Clan Pollock maintains a voting membership in COSCA. They are an umbrella group that promotes political and cultural ties with other Scottish heritage groups and representatives of the Scottish government. I attended as the voting member for Clan Pollock.

<https://www.cosca.scot/>

I have been honored to provide a bridge to a younger generation in hosting our Clan at the games. I owed it to the late Ben Stone and to A.D. And Clara Pollock to maintain our presence. Andrew Banks is a welcomed addition to the effort as age and infirmity slow me down. The last 3 years punctuated by a pandemic have been a challenge but our presence at America's premier games is very important. We owe that continued presence to the 43 year effort by those of us that have gone on to join our deceased and honored Clan family forebears

~Richard Anderson

### Greenville Games

Hal Hardin representing Clan Pollock at the Greenville games this year.



## UPCOMING GAMES AND EVENTS



Hosting a Clan Pollock tent at your local games is a great way to get to know other Pollocks, Polloks, Pooks, Polks, Polkes, Paulks, Poalks, Poalkes, Poulks, Pooles, and Pogues. If you'd like to host a tent at an event contact our President, A.D. and he'll help you get started. A good place to look for games near you is <http://www.asgf.org>.



**Bitterroot Celtic Games**  
**Hamilton, MT**  
**August 20-21, 2022**  
<http://www.bcgg.org/>

Dance and athletic competitions, Clan gathering (you could sponsor a tent), Sunday afternoon tea, live music, and so much more.

### **LONGS PEAK 46<sup>TH</sup> SCOTTISH IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL** **SEPTEMBER 9 – 11, 2022** **ESTES PARK, COLORADO**

This year's LONGS PEAK SCOTTISH~IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL will be held September 9, 10, & 11 in Estes Park, CO, the Celtic capital of North America. The festival has been a highlight in September for Estes Park and this year marks the 46<sup>th</sup> year of this festival. Highlights of the largest such festival in the country include: the best in Celtic Rock and Folk Music, Highland dancing, Pipe Band competitions, Athletic competitions, Highland dogs, Scotch Tasting seminars, a Celtic Parade with pipe bands and all the Clans through the town of Estes, tent visits with representatives from over 60 clans, merchandise tents, food booths, and the all-new 2022 International Tattoo—a military ground concert. We will have a Clan Pollock tent site set up for those of you who wish to attend. Denise & Mark Thomas of Lakewood, CO will be hosting the tent again this year. Come on by for a visit, some fellowship, stories, and some fun. Go to <http://www.scotfest.com> for tickets or more detailed information.



Celtic Capital of North America



**Middle Tennessee Highland Games**  
**Hendersonville, TN**  
**September 10-11, 2022**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1714102038793677/>

Join Us At Our New Home! The 2022 [Middle Tennessee Highland Games](https://www.facebook.com/events/1714102038793677/) will take place at our NEW location - [Sanders Ferry Park](#) in Hendersonville, TN on September 10th and 11th!

Save the dates and join us for athletic events, live Celtic bands, bagpipe competitions, Scottish artisans and food, Scotch tastings, kid's activities, and so much more.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Kilted Classic

**Thursday, September 29**

11:00 am - 8:30 pm CDT

Cantigny Golf Club

Wheaton, IL

<https://chicagoscots.org/kilted-classic/>



At the most unique golf tournament this side of the pond you will experience our famous Scottish hospitality. With the crowd favorites: Beat the Scot; Longest Drive; Massed Putt; And more!

And with an opportunity to win a bottle of whisky on every hole you will never be out of the running for all sorts of prizes at Chicago's favorite golf outing. Bring a foursome to celebrate Scotland's greatest contribution to the world of sports – GOLF! Scottish fun awaits!

All proceeds benefit Chicago Scots elder care mission at Caledonia Senior Living & Memory Care.

## GENEALOGIST CORNER

In early July I celebrated my 90th Birthday. My son-in-law gave me a card that showed what consumers faced on 2 July 1932, the date of my birth. A gallon of gas cost \$.10. A loaf of bread cost \$.07 (bread was still not sliced). Hamburger cost \$.10/pound. A postage stamp cost \$.03. Monthly rent was \$18. A new car cost \$610. A new house cost \$6,510. A movie ticket cost \$.25, although I remember paying \$.07 for the Saturday Cowboy movies. The average income was \$1,650!!!

That caused me to rue the days that I had not talked to my parents and grandparents while they were alive about their childhood without television, cell phones, or video games. If you are fortunate to have either your parents and/or grandparents alive, I urge you to get their stories, plus the stories of their parents and grandparents.

If you are the grandparent please tell your story and the stories of your ancestors either in writing or verbally so that you preserve your family's history.

It is important.

Richard H. Pollock,  
Genealogist  
Clan Pollock International

## HISTORIAN'S CORNER

### Pollok, Gilmour & Co., Glasgow – A Colossus of 19<sup>th</sup> Century British Shipping



John Pollok  
(1778-1858)

The story of Pollock, Gilmour, and Company (1806-1873) is one that probably few in Clan Pollock are aware of, but one that we can take pride in. It runs like a classic 19<sup>th</sup> century saga of American enterprise, from humble beginnings to an enormously successful timber shipping and shipbuilding business, built over several decades by three young men of common origin but strong character and integrity. It is not, however, an American story, but a Scottish one, of two brothers, John and Arthur Pollok, and a friend, Allan Gilmour, who grew up as schoolmates at the tiny Mearns Parish school in the shadow of Castle Pollok. They came from comfortable middle class, but not wealthy, families. The best explanation for their success will probably be found in the education and character formation they received from their schoolmaster, Mr. Andrew Jackson, who served the school for over four decades. (One of his other students that rose to prominence was Robert Pollok, author of "The Course of Time," subject of an earlier article in this Historian's Corner.) Mr. Jackson was "a schoolmaster of the excellent type that Scotland then produced for her village schools, a scholar himself, with an apt facility for imparting knowledge to others. While he instilled into his pupils the three R's and dipped with them into the classics, he was not one to spare the rod and spoil the child." Nearly a dozen other schoolmates from Mearns Parish were brought into the company as managers and subsidiary partners as the company grew in its early years. After their deaths all three original partners of the company were buried in Mearns Parish graveyard.

The company grew from a modest start. John and Arthur's uncle, Allan Pollock, had a grocery business in Glasgow into which both young men entered to serve as apprentices sometime after their schoolyears ended, probably about 1799. In 1804 the uncle sold the business to them and it continued under the name of John & Arthur Pollok & Co., on King Street, Glasgow. With their youthful energy and business acumen they soon expanded. Most importantly, Arthur got involved in lumber sales and shipping, working out of Grangemouth on the Firth of Forth, and established a firm under the name of Arthur Pollok & Co. Allan Gilmour had already gotten into the lumber business himself back in Mearns, and at some point, about 1804, these former schoolmates began to work together. This was a period when the supply of timber for shipbuilding was steadily decreasing in Britain, while the demands of its mercantile fleet were rising as it grew into a dominant world power. Sources of timber became a major economic issue and this presented an opportunity that the Pollok brothers and Allan Gilmour seized and thrived on. With wide-ranging travel and savvy dealings, they were able to identify and build business arrangements with timber suppliers in countries that still had an abundance of resources. Initially this was with Scandinavia and the Baltic countries, but later, and on a much greater scale, with Canada.

The relationship among the three partners was informal at first, but on 1 January, 1806, they entered into a formal partnership under the name of Pollok, Gilmour & Co., Glasgow. The terms of the agreement were drawn up in six articles drafted by themselves. Its language reflects the stern, straightforward and disciplined character of their former schoolmaster. Each partner contributed £1000 which under no circumstances could be withdrawn. A "day book" was to be kept in which every transaction of the company was to be entered, and balanced each year on December 31st. No one was to "draw out any of the profit that may appear at balancing until the next balance following," and only if that one also showed a profit. A subsistence allowance up to £100 was permitted each partner yearly. The life of the Company was to be six years although withdrawal after three years was allowable under certain provisions. If any differences arose between the partners, "the same shall be adjusted according to the opinion of Men uninterested and experienced in business, mutually chosen."

A somewhat unusual clause of particular note was that the partners "shall pay their whole attention to this business, and none of them shall be concerned in any other, either directly or indirectly, without the consent of the other partners." This became a major issue in later years when the Pollok brothers elected to purchase an estate in Broom, only four miles distant, for a summer residence. Allan Gilmour took great exception to this action as he felt it would detract from their attention to the business. In fact, it led to Gilmour's exiting the partnership in 1837. John and Arthur Pollok continued the business without him, until their own retirements in 1853. At this point nine subsidiaries had been established to carry on the business. John died in 1858 and Arthur in 1870 and the parent company was dissolved in 1873 by their nephew and legatee Allan Pollock.

The company was characterized by its rapid growth, especially in its first three decades, and it became one of the largest shipping companies in the British empire. Allan Gilmour travelled widely and took on the role of making initial contact to arrange supplier contracts or outright acquisitions of foreign resources. This was no small thing in those days since it involved multiple sailings across and around the Atlantic, North and Baltic Seas. John Pollock developed the sales base, travelling around the British Isles. Arthur Pollock primarily remained in Glasgow looking after finances, record keeping, and management training as the business expanded.

There was a very effective partnership and the company steadily grew as new markets and suppliers came on line, especially with Canada. Their first and largest supply port was at Miramichi, New Brunswick, which began to operate in 1812. It was an area of virgin forests lying along both branches of the Miramichi River, ideal for timber harvesting. Alexander Rankin and James Gilmour, brother of Allan, both from Mearns Parish, were placed in charge of that operation, which led to the formation of Gilmour, Rankin & Company, the first subsidiary partnership of the original company. Others followed at a steady pace and altogether 14 subsidiary companies were formed at widespread locations on both sides of the Atlantic, including St. John, New Brunswick, Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, and other Canadian locations, as well as New Orleans, Mobile, London and Liverpool. One was even established in Calcutta. In almost all cases the founding partners were men with names familiar to Mearns Parish – Rankin, Ritchie, Gilmour, Hutchinson and Ferguson. The company expanded beyond timber shipping and sales to include the full operation of timber harvesting and ship building. At its peak it employed about 15,000 people and owned 130 ocean going vessels. But the age of wood and wind was coming to an end and the age of steel and steam just beginning. Most of the company subsidiaries were reluctant to get into the building of iron ships but they began to do so in 1865. By this point John had died and Arthur was out of the business. The original partnership was dissolved in 1873.

During their partnership John and Arthur Pollok, and Allan Gilmour, lived together in a house at 24 Carlton Place, on the south bank of the Clyde in the heart of Glasgow. Their office building was a short walk away on Union Street. Allan Gilmour and John Pollok never married. Arthur Pollok married in 1818 but his wife, Barbara Thomson, died in childbirth in 1821. Their daughter married the son of John and Arthur's older brother Allan, who became the inheritor of the estates of all three Pollok brothers, an immense fortune. The squandering of that wealth is quite a story in itself, and needs a separate telling.

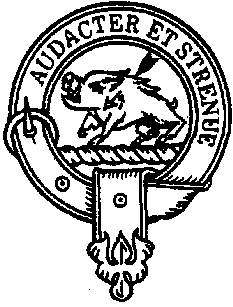
John F. Polk, Ph.D.  
Clan Historian  
Clan Pollock

## Clan Pollock International

Beth Avery, Editor

655 Janece Dr.

Grand Junction, CO 81505



**Motto: *Boldly and Strongly***

Electronic Distribution

PDF File Only

Any town, Any state 99999

