The Pollag
February 2023

"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…

In looking over the first paragraph of the February issues of the past 3 years, it's hard to believe we are still dealing with another variant of the long lasting Covid virus! We hope you and your family are well. And again – fires, floods, blizzards, tornadoes – all in the news!

Thanks to Brent DeShazo and his family for hosting the Central Florida Games in January. Look for pictures of these Games in this issue.

The Grandfather Mountain, NC Games in July and the Estes Park, CO Games in September are coming up later this year with Clan Pollock ably represented. We have a couple interested in hosting a Clan Pollock tent at the Smoky Mountain Games in Townsend, TN in May of 2024 so that is also something to look forward to. The past 3 years have been hard on Scottish Games and Festivals with some of the smaller ones not being able to reopen but others will keep going. Look for Games in your area and support them if you can.

It is time for the payment of our 2023 Clan Pollock dues, $15.00 **US dollars.** We have already received a few renewals and we will be sending out letters in the next few days. **If you have already paid or if you have your payment set up for Pay Pal, please disregard the letter.** You can send your check/money order made out to Clan Pollock International to Clara Ann Pollock at the address shown on this page of The Pollag. You can pay $16.00 **US dollars** through our Pay Pal page. Please put your full name on your payment. We have several members with the same first and last names and we want to be sure to credit the correct person.

As always, Beth and Mike Avery need your news and pictures so we can share them with our members in *The Pollag*. The Averys do a great job with the Pollag but they need your input to keep the newsletter interesting. AND don't forget to send us your change of address and/or

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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

e-mail address so we can keep our records up to date and make sure you don't miss any issues.

Our best to all or you in thie New Year!

A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock
Written January 24, 2023

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

MARCH
1 – William Pollock
4 – John E. Alden
5 – Deborah A. Mennig
8 – Duane T. Taylor
10 – Nicole Polk
12 – Donald O. Pollock
14 – Lawrence P. Pollock
15 – R. Scott Pollock III
18 – Laverne Raisch
20 – Kelly A. Loy; Blair M. Pogue
22 - Sidney Pollock
23 – Timothy R. Pollock

APRIL
3 - Emily P. Brown; Virginia R. Riebe
4 - Brian M. Pollock; Christine Brown
5 – Ian J. Pollock; Marjorie T. Scooros; James A. Pollock
7 – Brian M. Pollock; Nancy I. Salisbury
8 – James A. (Jim) Poage
9 – Richard Anderson
10 – Suzanne P. Hough
11 – Edward L. Pollock
12 – Janet A. Delaney
13 – David B. Pollock; Robert M. Pollock
15 – Diane Pollok Davis; Lori E. Pollock
20 – Charles A. Pollock; William D. Pollock
21 – James D. Polk
23 – Walter H. Pollock
25 – Amy E. Pollock-Morse
26 – George B. Pogue
27 – Jerry D. Mauck; Rebekah Pollock
28 – Scott R. Pollock
29 – Ulrich Starke
30 – Richard A. Pollock

MAY
1 – Patti S. Polk
3 – Larry G. Lankford; Clara A. Pollock; Cecil E. Pollock
5 – Victor Crawford
6 – Mary E. Bryan; Kent W. Woodward
8 – Nancy Musselman
10 – Robert H. Pollock IV
11 – David R. Pollock
12 – Shawn D. Joyce
14 – Velma A. Pollock
15 – Brent DeShazo; Carolyn T. Gerwig
16 – Adolphus A. Riewe Jr.
18 – Lynne P. Denson; James W. Pogue; Elizabeth P. Slough
19 – Beverly J. Craft; Christine Cozadd
24 – C. Richard Venable III
27 – Charles W. Cunard
30 – Evelyn P. Taylor

NEW MEMBERS

Lori E. Pollock, Portland, OR

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Adolphus Anton Riewe Jr., age 89, of La Canada, California passed away on February 24, 2022.

Martha Jane Nall Tucker, age 83, of Island, Kentucky passed away December 7, 2022. She was a Clan Pollock member for 20 year. Her grandfather, John Pollock, came to Kentucky in the 1850s. She and her sisters were the owners of Mrs. Janey's Tea Room in Sacramento, KY which has been closed.

FIND CLAN POLLOCK ON

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

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

NEWS OF THE GAMES

UPCOMING GAMES AND EVENTS

Phoenix Scottish Games
March 3-5, 2023
https://phoenixscottishgames.com/

Scottish American Society of South Florida
March 2, 2023
Plantation, FL
https://www.sassf.org/Festival

Loch Norman Highland Games
April 15-16, 2023
Huntersville, NC
http://lochnorman.com

Dunedin Highland Games and Festival
April 1, 2023
Dunedin, FL
https://www.dunedinscottisharts.com/highland-games/

Inaugural WV Wild & Wonderful Celtic Festival and Highland Games
June 17, 2023
Beverly, WV
https://www.wvcelticfestandgames.com/

The inaugural WV Wild & Wonderful Celtic Festival and Highland Games on June 17, 2023 in Beverly, WV (USA). They have already scheduled several events and vendors and would love to have Clan Pollock represented! The convening clans will have free admission

Please let A.D. Pollock (address on pg. 1) ASAP. Know if you are interested in hosting a tent at this new Game.

Greetings From Grandfather Mountain
July 6-9, 2023
https://gmhg.org/

It's 2023 and almost time to once again come to The Mountain.
Your Clan Pollock friends are making plans to welcome you.

We will again provide two tents to host Clan Pollock. Our tent on the inside ring will be our Clan information tent with displays of items related to our Clan and its history. Our tent on the outside ring will face the athletic field and provide our base for fellowship and shelter from the sun and inevitable rain…. Grandfather is its own biosphere.

Our turnout was great last year with over a dozen Pollocks spending up to 3 days on The Mountain. Many of you were as relieved as I was that we were finally emerging from two years of cancellation and cutback.

Say hello to Andrew Banks. He is a Pollock Clan member from here in the Carolinas who with the help of his wonderful wife and fun daughters will be assuming more of the local hosting duties as I age out. For years A.D. and Clara Pollock along with the Ben Stone family were your GMHG contacts and hosts. Several years ago we lost Mr. Stone and with the diminished travel schedule of the Pollocks, I have been your interim host. My goal is to leave that function in capable younger hands that can carry us to the next generation.

Learning about my Pollock ancestry began with my first GMHG visit 20 years ago. It has been a defining experience for me and my family.

Audacter Et Strenue
Richard Anderson

These links are useful for making plans

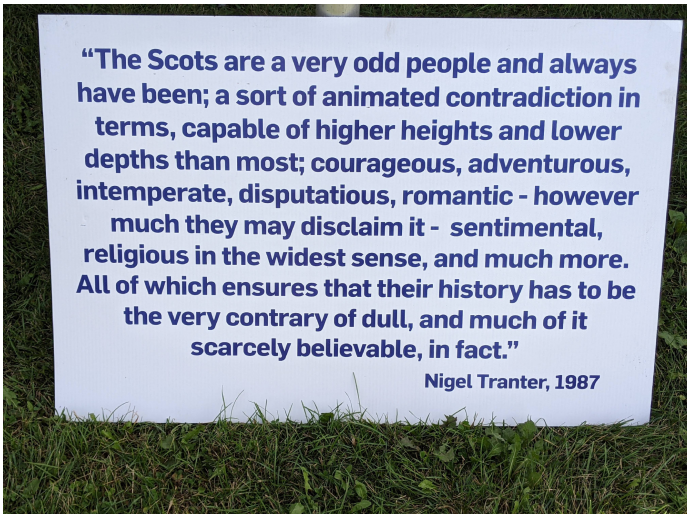
Tickets to specific events:
https://gmhg.org/registrations/
Whisky tasting and merchandise:
https://gmhg.org/shop/

The GMHG FaceBook page:
https://www.facebook.com/GrandfatherMountainHighlandGames/
Friends and Family of the GMHG FaceBook page:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/2234007106/

GAME REPORTS

Fergus Games
August 2022

Thanks to Andy Pollock



Central Florida Scottish Highland Games
January 14-15, 2023

After several years, Clan Pollock returned to one of the largest Scottish events in the Southeast - the Central Florida Scottish Highland Games. The two day event drew a record of 87 clans and societies this year. Clan Pollock supporters which we nickname "friends of Fulbert" assisted as volunteers and greeted many local Polks and Pollocks. The most special encounter was meeting the daughter of the late Hamish Pollock (FL commissioner of our clan). We look to grow our ranks in FL and will attend additional Scottish games in FL and potentially other Southeastern states. Looking forward to seeing you all!

Brent DeShazo

GENEALOGY TREE

Thank you to those who responded to the survey in the November Pollag asking about where your lineage is recorded. Surprisingly the consensus was the application for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution or the Sons of the American Revolution.

Several members have asked for suggestions about good sites on which to research their ancestors. MyHeritage is a good selection as is Ancestry.com, although Ancestry has become pricey. I use the complete offering and my renewal is going to cost $404 per year.

Richard H. Pollock,
Genealogist
Clan Pollock International

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Historian's Corner

THE POLLOCK MEDAL – FIELD MARSHALL SIR GEORGE POLLOCK

For almost a century the Pollock Medal was awarded to the "Most Distinguished Cadet of the Season" at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, England, and its predecessor the Military Academy at Addiscombe. The medal was made of gold, not quite 2 inches in diameter, showing an image of Field Marshall Sir George Pollock (1786-1872), Baronet of the Kyber Pass. The medal was created in 1844 when the British inhabitants of Calcutta established a fund for its award. It was awarded twice a year until 1939 when the Academy was disestablished during World War II. After the war Woolwich was consolidated with the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, to form the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, and the Pollock Medal was discontinued in favor of the Queen's Medal, awarded to the top cadet of each class

The original medal bore the inscription

MAJOR-GENERAL SIR GEORGE POLLOCK, K.C.B.

Bengal Artillery, Cabul 1842

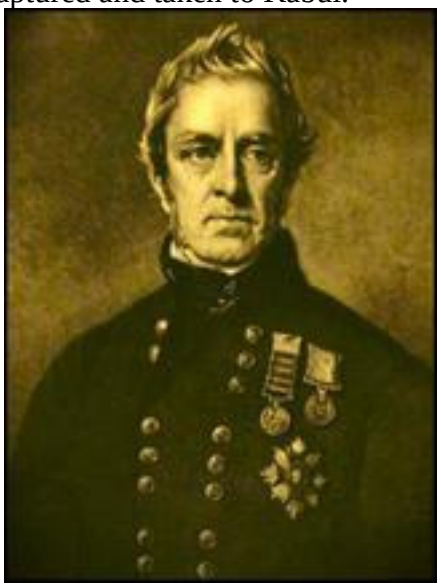
Treachery avenged – British honour vindicated – Disasters retrieved – British captives delivered

Khyber Pass forced – Jellalabad relieved – Victories of Mamoo Khail, Jugdulluck, Tezeen, Istaliff

Sir George Pollock was a redoubtable soldier with a long career in India, Burma and Nepal, but it was his campaign in Afghanistan, actually a rescue mission, for which he is most noted and what the Pollock Medal was created to honor. He was born in London in 1786, the son of David Pollock (1739-1815), a cordwainer or leather smith, who became known as the Saddler to the King for his services to King George III and his successors. David Pollock came from a gentry family of Berwick-on-Tweed on the Scottish border but moved to London early in his career to set up shop in Piccadilly. He must have been a remarkable craftsman to have risen from a commonplace background to win the King's nod as royal leather purveyor. In any case, his business was the pathway for access to the British upper classes by which David's sons gained entre to very distinguished careers, and the origin of the British branch of the Pollock family still prominent to this day. Two of the Saddler's other sons had equally distinguished careers – Sir Frederick Jonathan Pollock, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, and Sir David Pollock, Chief Justice of Bombay.

The Russian and American attempts to gain control of Afghanistan are familiar to us from recent history. The British made a similar attempt in 1839-1842 which is not as well known. In their case, it was not just a failure but an utter catastrophe in which the British government contingent, military forces and camp followers were completely annihilated. The one bright spot in its inglorious history was Sir George Pollock's subsequent bold strike through a very hostile country to rescue a contingent of British citizens still held captive at Kabul. He did this basically on his own initiative without higher level knowledge or approval other than some vaguely worded orders that he freely interpreted at his own discretion. In so doing he put both his career and his life on the line in an effort that he was in no way obligated to undertake.

In 1839 Lord Aukland, the Governor General in India, made an ill-conceived attempt to extend British suzerainty into Afghanistan by installing a British-leaning tribal leader as king in 1839. Forces were sent into the country and were initially successful but by the end of 1841 the failure of the undertaking was clear and the situation becoming desperate. The decision was made to evacuate from Kabul and retreat to Jalalabad, the next nearest British military post about 100 miles to the east, through treacherous terrain and a hostile enemy in the middle of an Afghan winter. They set out in January 1842 with 5000 British and Indian troops, 12,000 camp followers, wives and children. It was a mission doomed from the start. Only one person, the regimental surgeon, Dr. Brydon, is known to have survived and completed the journey. The only other survivors were a contingent of 115 persons that had been captured and taken to Kabul.



In April 1842 George Pollock, by then a Major General serving in India, was placed in charge of the British Army in Peshawar and sent to relieve the forces at Jalalabad which were under siege. This required a brutal engagement at the outset just to get through the Khyber Pass, usually an impregnable point of resistance, but accomplished with minor losses. After his arrival at Jalalabad and securing the area Pollock took it upon himself to march on to Kabul with the intent of rescuing the captive citizens and exacting some retribution for the enormous disaster inflicted on British forces. A series of hard-fought battles followed at Tezeen, Gandamak, and Jugdulluck Pass but the Army forced its way to Kabul and secured the capital by September. Linking up with another British force they pursued a fleeing Afghan army and rescued the captive British citizens which included the family of the British commander of Jalalabad. General Pollock remained in Kabul for about a month and had its Grand Bazaar totally destroyed before returning to Pakistan through the Kyber Pass. The rescued citizens were returned to India.

Field Marshall Pollock made a point of personally attending every Woolwich graduation ceremony at which the Pollock Medal was awarded until his final year, 1872. He is buried in Westminster Cathedral.

John F. Polk, Ph.D.
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Motto: ***Boldly and Strongly***

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Pictures of Pollok Caslte thanks to Brent DeShazo