

The Pollag
May 2024

"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...



Thanks to all our members who have sent in their membership dues for 2024. We appreciate your continued support of and interest in Clan Pollock. Once again we ask that in communicating with us you put your full name and address. We have several members with the same first and last names and we want to be sure we credit the right person.

If you don't see your birth date listed in The Pollag and want to be listed, please send us your date. Thanks!

Summer time brings more Scottish Games and activities. We have 2 new Games in Utah this Summer hosted by Eric Denslow and we thank Eric for volunteering to be a Clan Pollock tent host. Please see additional information in the newsletter on these games and others. The Grandfather Mountain Games in North Carolina in July and the Estes Park Games in Colorado in September will both be well represented by Clan Pollock hosts – Richard Anderson and the Banks family at Grandfather Mountain and Denise and Mark Thomas at Estes Park. If you are in the area of any of these Games this Summer please stop by and visit and/or stay awhile and help out. Any help is always appreciated.

We welcome news of members and their families – trips to Scotland with pictures; graduations; and other things of interest.

Again, thank you for your continued interest in and support of Clan Pollock. We wish the best for you and your families.

A.D. and Clara Ann Pollock
Written May 8, 2024

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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Clan Pollock Web Site

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

Clan Pollock Facebook Page

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

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

JUNE

1 – Michael A. Stroschio
4 – John A. Pollock
5 – Cheryl A. Zelek
8 – Robert W. Parrish
13 – James T. Pollock
14 – James W. Pollock
15 – Beth P. Avery
17 – Virginia P. Stoops
22 – David A. Pollock;
Patricia P. Brodsky
26 – Larry M. Pollock
28 – Anita L. Pollock
29 – William Floyd Polk II
30 – Dennis Marie Pollock

JULY

2 – Richard H. Pollock;
Milton B. Pollock
5 – William W. Pollock;
Mark W. Pollock
8 – Barbara P. Kidd
10 – Thomas J. Morgan
14 – Donald A. Gordner
18 – Thomas Pollock

19 – Sandra G. Pollock
20 – Willam C. Pollock
22 – Dawn M. Kurth;
Larry C. Poague
26 – Danette Owens
28 – Jerry C. Pollock
29 – Glenda L. Pollock
30 – Joyce Pollock
31 – Charles M. Mosely

AUGUST

1 – Carolyn L. Pollock;
Gary M. Pollock
2 – Hal G. Hardin
4 – Rhys Pollock
5 – Dorothy G. Lydecker
15 – Debra D. Munn
18 – Vicky Pollock Seibel;
W. John Espey
20 – Sandra N. Harriman
21 – Mary L. Anderson;
Larry R. Pollock
22 – Robert D. Pollock
23 – Nelle P. Kost
24 – Andy W. Pollock
30 – Archie D. Pollock III

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

NEW MEMBERS

Justin Eric Denslow, Sandy, Utah (rejoin)
Fred M. Pollock, Jr., Laupahoehoe, Hawaii
Zachary Plante, Goffstown, NH
Berkeley E. Pollok, San Rafael, CA

Alexis C. Pollock, Birmingham, MI
Kevin A. Pollock, Greenville, TN
Thomas Downing, Carmichael, CA

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Brent DeShazo was recently elected to become a Fellow or FSA Scot from the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and also is the incoming Vice President of the St. Andrews Society of Central Florida. Congratulations to Brent on these honors. Brent and his family are also Clan Pollock's hosts for the annual Central Florida Games. We appreciate his service.

From **Heather Ballantyne**: I visited Ayrshire in 2023 from New Zealand and am making videos about my Pollock ancestors. <https://youtu.be/sA8DKDmK2wY>. There are several and more are coming. They don't make any money. They are really made so my family can access family history on a device without reading - but I thought you might be interested. My next one is on the Brackenridge smugglers who are ancestors. Mary Pollock's mother was a Brackenridge. If you subscribe to @hballantyne0 on <http://youtube.com> you can find the rest and new ones from New Zealand.

GENEALOGY TREE

Richard H. Pollock,
Genealogist

Several members have asked that the "Cousin Chart" be shown again. So here it is on the back page!

NEWS OF THE GAMES

Reports of the Games and Events

San Antonio Highland Games April 7, 2024

Our Pollock Family had a Reunion in San Antonio during April 6-9, with 43 participating. We were my sister and brothers and I (all Clan Pollock members) and almost all of our children and grandchildren. (Alternately said, this was a three-generation reunion of the descendants of our parents, Alex S. and Doris L. Pollock.)

On Sunday, April 7, we all went to the San Antonio Highland Games, and a fine time was had by all. The photo is all of us in front of the Clan Maxwell tent, which in the sign over our heads lists "Pollock" as an associated clan. The second is a photo of the oldest and youngest members of the Reunion: me, Alex J. Pollock, 81 years old, and Maude Pollock, daughter of my son, James, 2 years old!



The next day, Monday, we all went out to see the total eclipse, then on Tuesday headed to our many different homes, ranging from Switzerland to Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific, full of great memories and glad to be members of the Pollock Clan.

~ Alex J. Pollock



UPCOMING GAMES AND EVENTS

2024 Utah Scottish Festival & Highland Games

June 14-16, 2024

Utah State Fairgrounds

Salt Lake City, Utah

<https://www.utahscots.org/highland-games>

Eric Denslow will be hosting a Clan Pollock tent. Stop by and enjoy the company of fellow Pollocks.

Grandfather Mountain Highland Games

July 11-14, 2024

McRae Meadows

Linville, NC

<https://gmhg.org/>

Greetings from Grandfather Mountain.....



Hello fellow Clan Pollock descendents and congratulations on completing another trip around the sun. The Grandfather Games are once again on our near term calendars. In 1956, Agnes MacRae Morton of Linville co-founded the games and except for one year during the Covid pandemic, they have been held here on Grandfather Mountain. The GMHG are the oldest official highland heritage event in the United States.

Clan Pollock will host two tents this year....One for a display tent and the other adjacent to the athletic field for fellowship and event viewing. We were fortunate to obtain two tents as the Clan participation has exploded and now exceeds the space available. Stephen Quillan, the Games manager has been most gracious in accommodating us.

We are also represented in COSCA, the Council of Scottish Clans and Associations in America which holds its annual meeting at the GMHG. COSCA represents the interests of Scottish clan and family associations and other heritage member organizations across the USA and internationally.

I have a backup room reserved at the Pineola Lodge near the games if anyone makes a last minute decision to attend and needs a place to stay. We have two parking spots reserved at the top of the mountain and can carpool to make the trek easier on older and younger Pollocks.

I would like to thank The Banks family of North Carolina....Frances and her son Andrew and their wonderful family who will be assisting again this year. Mark your calendar....The 68th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games will be held July 11 – 14, 2024 at MacRae Meadows on Grandfather Mountain near Linville, NC. They are the premier Scottish Highland games and gathering of Clans. Feel free to contact me with question: Richard Anderson boonmtnradio@gmail.com Audacter et Strenue

Payson Scottish Festival

July 12-13, 2024

Payson Memorial Park

Payson, Utah

<https://www.paysonscottishfestival.org/>

Admission is free! Eric Denslow will be hosting a Clan Pollock tent. Stop by and enjoy the company of fellow Pollocks.



LONGS PEAK 48th SCOTTISH IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL

September 6 – 8, 2024

Estes Park, CO

www.scotfest.com

LONGS PEAK SCOTTISH IRISH HIGHLAND FESTIVAL will be held September 6 – 8 in Estes Park, CO, the Celtic capital of North America! The festival has been a highlight of September in Estes Park and this year marks their 48th anniversary. Highlights of the largest such festival in the country include: the best in Celtic Rock and Folk Music, Highland Dancing, Dogs & Cattle of the Highlands, Pipe Bands, Athletic competitions, a Celtic Parade through the beautiful town of Estes Park on Saturday (please come and walk with us), representatives from over 60 clans, and the International Tattoo (a mass gathering of military bands, pipe & drum bands and highland dancers). We will have a Clan Pollock tent site for those of you who do attend. Go to www.scotfest.com for tickets and further information. Denise & Mark Thomas of Lakewood, CO will be hosting the tent this year for us. Come on by for a visit and some fellowship. Slainte'

Remembering the fun in 2023:



OTHER GAMES: Attend this year and think about hosting a Clan Pollock tent at one of these in the future. Contact A.D. for information on how to host a tent

WV Wild & Wonderful Celtic Festival and Highland Games

June 15, 2024

Beverly, WV

<https://www.wvcelticfestandgames.com/>



We had a great time in 2023 and had over 1200 guests to join us. We have added even more events and vendors for this year. We also have a world-class lineup of entertainers performing.

Chicago 38th Annual Scottish Festival and Highland Games

June 14-15, 2024

DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, IL 60187

<https://chicagoscots.org/festival/>



The Chicago Scots are excited to announce the relocation of the 38th Annual Scottish Festival & Highland Games to our new home at the DuPage County Fairgrounds!

Minnesota Scottish Fair and Highland Games

July 13, 2024.

St. Paul Minnesota

<https://www.mnscottishfair.org/>



MN Scottish Fair and Highland Games is finally back after a much smaller event due to Covid. We will be having our Fair on July 13th at Macalester College in St Paul MN

HISTORIAN'S CORNER

John Polk

Historian

Clan Pollock International

The Mecklenburg Declaration - Fact or Fiction

The date 20 May 1775 appears on both the state flag and state seal of North Carolina. It commemorates the declaration of independence asserted by the citizens of Mecklenburg County on that date, proclaimed by Thomas Polk, commander of the county militia, from the courthouse steps of Charlotte, the county seat. This was more than a year before the national Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, so North Carolinians had good reason to inscribe the motto "First in Freedom" on their license plates, as they did for many years.

So, what was the Mecklenburg Declaration and what is the story behind it? Surprisingly there has been a long running controversy about this, because there are two different versions of the declaration. The one said to be written on 20 May was a shorter, simpler version, now referred to as the Mecklenburg Declaration, or more familiarly as the "Mec Dec." The other, dated 31 May, was a longer, more formally worded version known as the Mecklenburg Resolves which was published in contemporary newspapers. The basic problem is that the records of the meeting that produced the 20 May declaration were lost when the house of the meeting's recording secretary burnt down in 1800. What survived were some separately kept notes, containing what is the claimed text of the declaration. It reads as follows:

Resolved — That whosoever directly or indirectly abets or in any way, form or manner, countenances the invasion of our rights, as attempted by the Parliament of Great Britain, is an enemy to his country, to America, and the rights of man.

Resolved — That we, the citizens of Mecklenburg County do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us with the mother country, and absolve ourselves from all allegiance to the British crown, abjuring all political connection with a nation that has wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties and inhumanly shed the innocent blood of Americans at Lexington.

Resolved — That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, that we are and of right ought to be, a sovereign and self-governing people under the power of God and the general Congress; to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes, and our most sacred honor.

Resolved — That we do hereby ordain and adopt as rules of conduct all and each of our former laws, and the crown of Great Britain cannot be considered hereafter as holding any rights, privileges, or immunities amongst us.

Resolved — That all officers, both civil and military in this county, be entitled to exercise the same powers and authorities as heretofore; that every member of this delegation shall henceforth be a civil officer, and exercise the powers of a justice of the peace, issue process, hear and determine controversies according to law, preserve peace, union and harmony in the county, and use every exertion to spread the love of liberty and of country, until a more general and better organized system of government be established.

Resolved — That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by express to the President of the Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia, to be laid before that body.

This was radical language. It came from a remote backwoods county declaring liberty on its own, not waiting for its provincial government or the Continental Congress to take action. Was this real? There is no dispute that a group of Mecklenburg delegates were already gathered at the courthouse on the afternoon of 19 May when news of Lexington and Concord arrived, inflaming their resentment against British rule. The popular refrain throughout the colonies at that time was "The cause of Boston is the cause of all." The delegates debated into the night on their course of action



Colonel Thomas Polk proclaiming the Mecklenburg Declaration from Charlotte Courthouse, 20 May 1775. From front cover of "The First American Declaration of Independence?" by Scott Syfert

and unanimously voted that the county should declare itself free and independent. At noon on the following day, 20 May, Colonel Polk proclaimed to the assembled citizens that Mecklenburg was renouncing any allegiance to the British Crown. This much is generally agreed to. The question is whether the document cited above had actually been written at that point, and was read to the citizens.

The second document, the Mecklenburg Resolves was written over the following 11 days, probably after more sober discussion, and approved by the Mecklenburg Council on 31 May. It was more carefully worded and provided for the possibility of a retraction provided the British Parliament mended its ways (which was hardly likely). It was, nonetheless, also a radical document, proclaiming independence not just for Mecklenburg County but for all 13 colonies! Its first resolve reads "All Commissions, civil and military, heretofore granted by the Crown, to be exercised in these Colonies, are null and void, and the Constitution of each particular Colony wholly suspended." It was a longer document, containing 20 resolves altogether, including provisions for how the newly independent county

would govern itself.

A messenger was sent posthaste to the North Carolina delegation in the Continental Congress then assembled in Philadelphia, with a copy of the declaration, or the resolves (no one knows for sure), with request that it be presented to the full Congress for consideration. The 550-mile horseback ride by Captain James Jack delivering the documents is still celebrated every year in Charlotte along with its 20 May celebration of the Mec Dec. The NC delegation did not take action, however, because the Congress was in the midst of trying to work a compromise with Parliament and the King that would be acceptable in the colonies, so the timing was not good for such an action.

The Mecklenburg Resolves were published in newspapers in North and South Carolina and got the immediate attention of the royally appointed Governor who was holed up on a British warship in Wilmington for his safety. He was appalled by what he read and sent a message back to the British Secretary of State stating that they "surpass all the horrid and treasonable publications that the inflammatory spirits of this Continent have yet produced. Your Lordship may depend its authors will not escape my due notice."

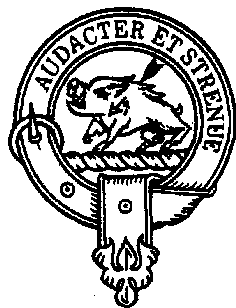
Lord Cornwallis had his own opinion of Mecklenburg, calling the area a "hornet's nest of rebellion" after the British costly incursion into the area, and disastrous defeat at nearby Kings Mountain, in 1780. In the turmoil of the American Revolution and in the shadow of the July 4th declaration, the Mecklenburg declaration and resolves were largely forgotten, at least in the rest of the country. It became an item of national interest however in 1820 when several Congressmen got into a dispute about when independence was first declared. The North Carolina representative brought up the events in Mecklenburg in 1775 and was asked for a copy of the document, which led in turn to the publication of the Mecklenburg Declaration as transcribed above in several newspapers in the south. A copy soon found its way to John Adams who was quite surprised by it, never having heard of it before. Adams promptly sent a copy to his long-time friend and sometimes adversary, Thomas Jefferson, frankly suggesting that Jefferson may have plagiarized a bit from it in his draft of the national declaration. This of course infuriated Jefferson who dismissed the Mecklenburg document as "spurious." This was the beginning of the controversy over the authenticity of the Mec Dec, which is still with us. There is no room to go into it here, but an excellent book about it called "The First American Declaration of Independence?" by Scott Syfert was published in 2015. It is highly recommended.

Clan Pollock International

Beth Avery, Editor

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Motto: Boldly and Strongly

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COUSIN CALCULATOR

YOUR GRANDPARENT

	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
	GRANDPARENT	GREAT-GRANDPARENT	2ND GREAT-GRANDPARENT	3RD GREAT-GRANDPARENT	4TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	5TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	6TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	7TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	8TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	9TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT	10TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT
GRANDPARENT →	1ST COUSIN	1st Cousin, 1x Removed	1st Cousin, 2x Removed	1st Cousin, 3x Removed	1st Cousin, 4x Removed	1st Cousin, 5x Removed	1st Cousin, 6x Removed	1st Cousin, 7x Removed	1st Cousin, 8x Removed	1st Cousin, 9x Removed	1st Cousin, 10x Removed
GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 1x Removed	2ND COUSIN	2nd Cousin, 1x Removed	2nd Cousin, 2x Removed	2nd Cousin, 3x Removed	2nd Cousin, 4x Removed	2nd Cousin, 5x Removed	2nd Cousin, 6x Removed	2nd Cousin, 7x Removed	2nd Cousin, 8x Removed	2nd Cousin, 9x Removed
2ND GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 2x Removed	2nd Cousin, 1x Removed	3RD COUSIN	3rd Cousin, 1x Removed	3rd Cousin, 2x Removed	3rd Cousin, 3x Removed	3rd Cousin, 4x Removed	3rd Cousin, 5x Removed	3rd Cousin, 6x Removed	3rd Cousin, 7x Removed	3rd Cousin, 8x Removed
3RD GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 3x Removed	2nd Cousin, 2x Removed	3rd Cousin, 1x Removed	4TH COUSIN	4th Cousin, 1x Removed	4th Cousin, 2x Removed	4th Cousin, 3x Removed	4th Cousin, 4x Removed	4th Cousin, 5x Removed	4th Cousin, 6x Removed	4th Cousin, 7x Removed
4TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 4x Removed	2nd Cousin, 3x Removed	3rd Cousin, 2x Removed	4th Cousin, 1x Removed	5TH COUSIN	5th Cousin, 1x Removed	5th Cousin, 2x Removed	5th Cousin, 3x Removed	5th Cousin, 4x Removed	5th Cousin, 5x Removed	5th Cousin, 6x Removed
5TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 5x Removed	2nd Cousin, 4x Removed	3rd Cousin, 3x Removed	4th Cousin, 2x Removed	5th Cousin, 1x Removed	6TH COUSIN	6th Cousin, 1x Removed	6th Cousin, 2x Removed	6th Cousin, 3x Removed	6th Cousin, 4x Removed	6th Cousin, 5x Removed
6TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 6x Removed	2nd Cousin, 5x Removed	3rd Cousin, 4x Removed	4th Cousin, 3x Removed	5th Cousin, 2x Removed	6th Cousin, 1x Removed	7TH COUSIN	7th Cousin, 1x Removed	7th Cousin, 2x Removed	7th Cousin, 3x Removed	7th Cousin, 4x Removed
7TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 7x Removed	2nd Cousin, 6x Removed	3rd Cousin, 5x Removed	4th Cousin, 4x Removed	5th Cousin, 3x Removed	6th Cousin, 2x Removed	7th Cousin, 1x Removed	8TH COUSIN	8th Cousin, 1x Removed	8th Cousin, 2x Removed	8th Cousin, 3x Removed
8TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 8x Removed	2nd Cousin, 7x Removed	3rd Cousin, 6x Removed	4th Cousin, 5x Removed	5th Cousin, 4x Removed	6th Cousin, 3x Removed	7th Cousin, 2x Removed	8th Cousin, 1x Removed	9TH COUSIN	9th Cousin, 1x Removed	9th Cousin, 2x Removed
9TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 9x Removed	2nd Cousin, 8x Removed	3rd Cousin, 7x Removed	4th Cousin, 6x Removed	5th Cousin, 5x Removed	6th Cousin, 4x Removed	7th Cousin, 3x Removed	8th Cousin, 2x Removed	9th Cousin, 1x Removed	10TH COUSIN	10th Cousin, 1x Removed
10TH GREAT-GRANDPARENT →	1st Cousin, 10x Removed	2nd Cousin, 9x Removed	3rd Cousin, 8x Removed	4th Cousin, 7x Removed	5th Cousin, 6x Removed	6th Cousin, 5x Removed	7th Cousin, 4x Removed	8th Cousin, 3x Removed	9th Cousin, 2x Removed	10th Cousin, 1x Removed	11TH COUSIN

HOW IT WORKS

1. Identify the grandparents you and your cousin share.
(Ex. Your 5th great-grandparent is your cousin's 7th great-grandparent.)

2. On the horizontal line, find your shared grandparent.
(Ex. Your 5th great-grandparent)

3. On the vertical line, find your cousin's shared grandparent.
(Ex. Your cousin's 7th great-grandparent)

4. See where the lines intersect.
(Ex. You are 6th cousins, 2x removed.)