

NOVEMBER 2022 | ISSUE 134

THE EAGLE GATE

Official Newsletter of Clan Carmichael USA



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Alana Carmichael Nigro, CCUSA President



Happy Fall to my Carmichael cousins!

I hope you are all well and enjoying some cooler weather as we move through fall and head toward the Holidays. We recently held our annual meeting at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Stone Mountain Highland games and were blessed with beautiful weather and a good turnout. I want to say that I am truly excited at the enthusiasm and ideas we are getting from some of our younger members and hope to find ways to get more folks involved in the upcoming year. Let's make 2023 the best year ever for Clan Carmichael USA.

For our organization to thrive and to grow, we need to focus on the future, while cherishing those leaders from our past and remembering our rich history. As President, I hope I can serve as a bridge between generations! For now, Happy Holidays and hope to see you all in Scotland next year at the International Clan Gathering in June!

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2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Clan Carmichael USA's Annual General Meeting was held in person on Saturday, October 15th at the Stone Mountain Highland Games, with several attendees present and others joining via Zoom.

Special guest Andrew Carmichael of Carmichael, Younger of Carmichael, joined via Zoom and thanked members for their continued support of Clan Carmichael. He provided an update on the Carmichael Estate, detailing some of the difficulties they have had over the last few years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He also provided updates about the Gathering at Carmichael, Scotland next year, to be held June 18th – 23rd, 2023.

President Alana Nigro began by calling the meeting to order and after reviewing old business, each CCUSA committee chair delivered a brief report. Alana, also serving as the Treasurer, reported that CCUSA began the fiscal year with a balance of \$6,065.99. Income for October 2021–October 2022 was \$5,1540.20. Expenses for the same period totaled \$5,657.85, leaving a current balance of \$5,562.34.

Representing the scholarship committee, Arthur Carmichael reported that two \$1,000 scholarships were awarded this year (see Eagle Gate 133 and 134), leaving the Clan Carmichael USA Scholarship Fund with a balance of \$15,862.00.

The Membership Committee chair, Scott Carmichael reported 126 current CCUSA members, an increase of roughly 20% from the previous year. The increase in membership was attributed to an increased social media engagement, and requests were made for each member to actively seek other Carmichaels who might consider becoming a member.

Newsletter editor Leah Carmical Hargrove explained that upcoming newsletters will be delivered three times each year, rather than four. Each edition, however, will include several more pages than current publications. This change will significantly save on shipping expenses.

CLAN CARMICHAEL USA LEADERSHIP

President, Alana C. Nigro
1st Vice President, John Carmichael
2nd Vice President, Stan Carmical
Treasurer, Alana C. Nigro
Secretary, Adele C. Harrah

Denise Carmichael Aiken
Roger Bickell
Arthur Carmichael
Scott C. Carmichael
James P. Carmichael

Wayne Carmichael
Brian Turner
Vicki Shank
Art Hopkins
Claudia Lemone
Christopher Carmichael Bailey

President Emeritus Arthur Carmichael Jr.
President Emeritus Rodney Waltman
President Emeritus Billy Mac Carmichael
Immediate Past President Don Carmichael

CARMICHAEL CORNER KIRK

contributed by Reverend Marian Carmical

The Gospel of Matthew begins, “An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.” (NRSV) What follows is a litany of names, some very familiar to us, others more obscure. Jesus’s family tree included people of dubious character. No one’s family tree is perfect, is it? Our families have an impact on us, and we have an impact on our families, for better or for worse.

As we prepare for Advent and Christmas, let us remember the rich and varied heritage of Jesus’s ancestors and give thanks for the ancestors who make up our family trees and who passed on their faith to future generations. May God help us to be the ancestors that future generations remember with thanks.



NEWSLETTER CHANGES


It was very encouraging to receive so many positive reports and notes of appreciation about the *Eagle Gate* from CCUSA members at the Stone Mountain Games.

It's our intention to continue creating an engaging, high-quality, archive-worthy newsletter for years to come. It's also our intention to keep the newsletter affordable, and to only require a reasonable portion of your membership dues to print and mail.


To that end, the *Eagle Gate* will soon undergo a major facelift. Starting in 2023, issues will be less frequent




NEW

CLAN CARMICHAEL | USA

HOME MEMBERSHIP PAST PRESENT FUTURE



Carmichael Clan Radio
Episode 4: Dr. Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart

0:00 - 0:00

▶ Episode 4: Dr. Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart

▶ Episode 3: Katie Carmichael

▶ Episode 2: Dr. Clifford Rogers


▶ Episode 1: Origins of the Carmichael Name

01:29:58


23:31


01:17:24

05:33



Carmichael Clan Radio
Episode 4: Dr. Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart

0:00 - 1:29:58



Dr. Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart

CARMICHAEL CLAN RADIO

ON AIR! Episode 4 of Carmichael Clan Radio is available now on the CCUSA website, iTunes, Spotify, or any other platforms that carry podcasts.

In Episode 4, we talk to Dr. Dòmhnall Uilleam Stiùbhart (Donald William Stewart), university professor at the University of Highlands and Islands about Alexander Carmichael, the famed Lismore-native who journeyed across the Highlands of Scotland collecting folklore, songs, poems, and information about the traditions of the Scottish Highlands.

Be sure not to miss this fascinating discussion with Dr. Stiùbhar and learn about one of the most well-known Carmichaels from Scotland.

(three issues a year, instead of four), but each issue will now be longer, with a new cover image featured on each issue. This new format will allow for longer special-interest pieces while also saving on production costs.

Everything else about the newsletter will remain the same--including our need for your content! If you have family photos to show off, travels around the US or abroad, or a photo of a treasured Carmichael heirloom, location, or historic photo, **please share!**

Send any comments, concerns, questions, or potential content to Leah Carmical Hargrove at newsletter@clancarmichaelusa.com. It doesn't have to be perfect; we're always happy to help!



We're also excited to announce that we are working to bring CCUSA members full access to all archived *Eagle Gate* newsletters and Chief Richard's *Broken Spear* via the online member portal on www.clancarmichaelusa.com. More to come; stay posted!

amazon smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Clan Carmichael USA is now registered as a charitable organization with Amazon Smile! Amazon Smile is very easy way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, *at no cost to you*.

Amazon Smile will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. Over time, these contributions can be a big help!

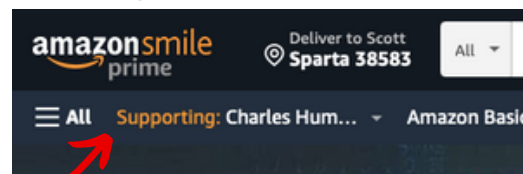
To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com on your web browser or activate Amazon Smile on your Amazon app on your iPhone or Android phone.

Turn on AmazonSmile

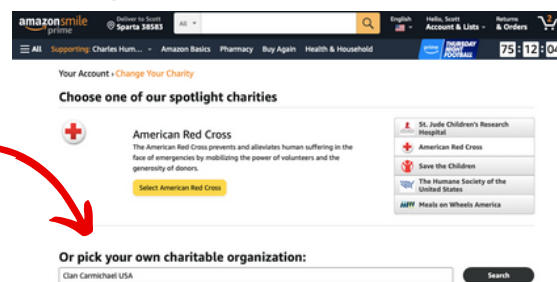
Open the app and find 'Settings' in the main menu (≡). Tap on 'AmazonSmile' and follow the on-screen instructions to turn on AmazonSmile on your phone.

In your web browser, go to smile.amazon.com

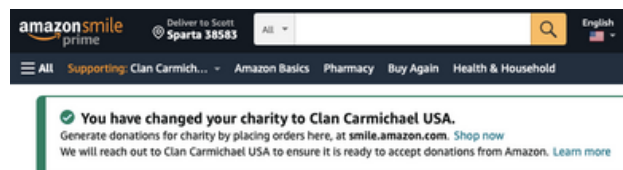
1) Locate "Supporting:" in top left corner.



2) Choose Clan Carmichael USA as your charitable organization.



3) That's it. Start shopping!



QUECHEE SCOTTISH GAMES

A REPORT BY JEFF CARMICHAEL OF DUMMERSTON, VT

This August, CCUSA-member Jeff Carmichael of Dummerston, Vermont hosted a Clan Carmichael tent at the Quechee Scottish Games and Festival in beautiful Quechee, Vermont. Wearing his custom-made kilt recently purchased and expertly crafted from MacGregor and MacDuff of Scotland, Jeff answered the call to host a tent, and doing so demonstrated that for Clan Carmichael, “Tut Jour Prest” aren’t just hollow words, but are instead a motto by which we live.

While at the festival, Jeff recorded his thoughts on the weekend and the path he had followed that lead to him spending a late-summer weekend in a Vermont field, clad in tartan, along with hundreds of others doing just the same.

“In February they sighted Sydney, Cape Breton, but could not land owing to drift ice. Their ship kept cruising and drifting along the Island coast until the following month of April, when they were able to land at Ingonish. They suffered terrible hardships and privations. For a long time, they had neither food nor water. After landing they had extreme difficulty in reaching a house where they found food, drink, and shelter. Out of the whole group, only five survived the painful ordeal. [Donald] Daniel Carmichael was one of these five.”

This paragraph was what got me hooked.

After a few years of occasional research into my family roots on Ancestry.com, I was able to make the most progress with my father’s Carmichael lineage, who came through Nova Scotia. Later I purchased “The History of Inverness County, Nova Scotia” by John L. MacDougall (1922) and was able to confirm several hints that were also corroborated by other family trees, including the excerpt above describing the dramatic arrival in 1810 of my 3rd great-grandfather, Donald Daniel Carmichael (1787-1854), from Oban, Argyll, Scotland.

I don’t know yet, but I wonder if his family was among those who moved north to the Lismore/Appin area from the land of the Stewarts of Galloway.

Fortunate to make some progress with my (very) amateur genealogy and becoming increasingly interested in my Carmichael roots, it seemed like the next thing to do was to find out about my clan. I joined Clan Carmichael USA this past March, not knowing what to expect, and without knowing anything about it or any of its members.

So it was with a mixed sense of warm welcome and fear of the unknown when two months later I received an email from Scott Carmichael asking me if I might be interested in hosting a Clan Carmichael tent in my neck of the woods in Vermont, at the Quechee Scottish Games on Saturday, August 27th. After looking into it I said yes, and I'm glad I did.

After the drenching rains of Friday, August 26th prevented me from setting up ahead of time, I drove the sixty-five miles back home, only to later retrace my steps again very early the next morning. Setting up a new, still-boxed canopy tent was actually fun, especially when I realized that I was among the first to arrive, so there was no rush. As the morning grew brighter and others started to arrive, it turned into an idyllic New England late summer day, with mostly blue skies, a light breeze, with temperatures just nudging 80 degrees with low humidity.



CCUSA tent host Jeff Carmichael



The organizer of the festival – knowing I was a rookie and going solo – was compassionate enough to site my tent next to a very experienced and kind convener, Ray McHatton of Clan Chattan. Ray was helpful, showed me the ropes, put my fears at ease, and even took a photo of me proudly wearing my brand-new Carmichael tartan kilt at the tent. (I highly recommend MacGregor and MacDuff, “Kings of Kilts” – I received lots of compliments on their kilt, including from a kilt maker.)

I had never even attended a Highland Games event before. The Quechee Games is small, which was good for my first time. It was great interacting with families when the children came around for stamps for their “passports”. I didn’t have a stamp, but instead signed my name along with “Tout Jour Prest”!

I also had several chances to recount the Carmichael story, from Queen Margaret and her Llan Mychell to John de Carmichael at Baugé and our crest, and a bit of my own lineage for those who were interested (most were).

I encourage others in New England to join me in future events and for anyone who has yet to take the plunge to host a tent. The water’s not that cold!



Hartford & District Pipe Band



Catamount Pipe Band

photos courtesy of
Jeff Carmichael



Dave Shinnlinger competes in the caber toss



THE HYNDFORD BRIDGE

by Scott Carmichael, CCUSA Membership Chair

Returning from Edinburgh while traveling along the Hyndford Road early one morning, it occurred to Chief Richard Carmichael – 30th Chief of the Name and Arms, and 26th Baron of Carmichael – that this may be the only time he'd ever had the Hyndford Bridge to himself. At only nineteen feet wide between the small masonry obelisks on each side of its approach parapets and quickly narrowing to one lane, most travelers are used to waiting at a traffic signal before they can traverse the River Clyde along the narrow, one-way bridge. The bridge is so narrow, in fact, that there are four small recesses along each side of the bridge located above each pier that would, at one point in time, allow pedestrians a safe place to stand “when two conveyances would meet.”

Crossing the River Clyde used to be a more daunting task. Before the bridge's construction, which is listed as having been completed in 1773, there were a number of fords and ferries along the Clyde that offered passage to either side of the river. “For centuries,” Chief Richard told me, “Carmichaels earned their livings...with [these] fords and small boats.” According to the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland's 133rd Session (1912–1913)*, the Hyndford Bridge was erected to facilitate communication by coach between Edinburgh on the east coast and Ayr on the west coast. For as long as anyone could remember, the path from the capital to Ayr had crossed the Clyde near Lanark at Clydesholm, but an official act of Parliament in 1772 proposed a new route, reasoning that “the River Clyde is often dangerous [at Clydesholm] and impassable for travelers.” The new route from Edinburgh to Ayr would pass through Carnwath, Ravenstruther, cross the Clyde at Carmichael, then proceed to Douglas, Parish Holm, and eventually arrive in Ayr. Incidentally, this route is designated today as the A70 road that bisects Scotland and is

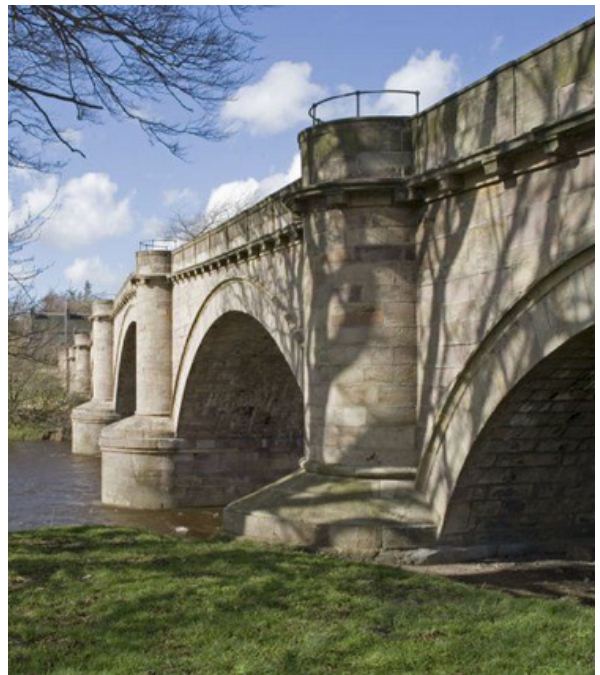


locally known as the “Lang Whang.” The route proposed in Parliament, however, would not be complete until the new bridge could be constructed.

Alexander Stevens was one of the leading bridge builders of the time and was hired to design and build the five-arch sandstone bridge. Borrowing from a French design, Stevens chose to build streamlined, curved cutwaters above each of the pier’s foundation blocks. These cutwaters help to prevent debris from building up on the upstream face of the bridge and provide improved bridge hydraulics, allowing for a more structurally sound bridge. Cutwaters on the downstream side also allow the water to join again smoothly and minimize the formation of whirlpools. Stevens’s chosen design provided the Hyndford Bridge with a high degree of sophistication, especially for bridges of this time.

The central arch of the bridge spans sixty feet, with the two surrounding arches each spanning fifty-five feet. The outermost thirty-foot arches are built on solid ground and are known as flood arches. These last arches provide the Hyndford Bridge with a wide, majestic, and symmetrical form set along the mostly undisturbed fields surrounding it. In a 1793 account of the bridge featured in the *Statistical Account of the Parish of Lanark*, the author said of the bridge that “for elegance and simplicity, it may challenge any bridge...in Scotland.”

The same 1772 act of Parliament that established the new route and the bridge construction also arranged for a pontage – a toll for the building or repair of a bridge – to be collected at a small toll house on the eastern side of the bridge, the ruins of which are still owned today by Chief Richard Carmichael. “For every coach, chariot, landau, berlin, chaise, hearse, calash or chair, drawn by six or more horses, mares, geldings, mules or beasts of draught,” the toll would be “1s. 6d.” – or one shilling and six pence (“one and six” as one would say). Fares decreased with the number of animals, and to cross on foot only cost each traveler a halfpenny (1/2d. – pronounced “haypny”).



The bridge, of course, took its name from the adjoining Hyndford estate, which had long been a possession of the Carmichael family and the namesake of the title bestowed on John, 2nd Lord Carmichael, 1st Earl of Hyndford in 1701. More widely known during the time the bridge was constructed would have been John, 3rd Earl of Hyndford, who was a well-known diplomat, having served as envoy to Prussia, Russia, and Vienna, among other prestigious positions. (For more history of the early Earls of Hyndford, be on the lookout for Chief Richard’s upcoming 57th edition of the Broken Spear newsletter.)

When viewed from the banks of the river, the Hyndford Bridge presents a striking appearance and is a “great bridge and tribute [to the Earl of Hyndford]” according to Chief Richard. When constructed, the bridge was beneficial to the area which had previously been dependent on ferries and continues to this day to provide a beautiful focal point set among the Lowland countryside. Although the Hyndford Bridge no longer adjoins the lands of the Carmichael Estate, be sure to not miss it on your next visit. Along with the Hyndford Monument atop Carmichael Hill, the Hyndford Bridge is itself another local monument to the rich history of the Carmichael family.



"At only nineteen feet wide between the small masonry obelisks on each side of its approach parapets and quickly narrowing to one lane, most travelers are used to waiting at a traffic signal before they can traverse the River Clyde along the narrow, one-way bridge."

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Clan Carmichael USA Announces Scholarship Recipients

Through its role as a charitable and educational organization, Clan Carmichael USA offers scholarship grants for studies or research at accredited four-year universities. The Scholarship Committee of CCUSA is pleased to announce the second of two 2022 recipients of the Clan Carmichael USA scholarship: Casey Gritton.



Kansas State University

Casey is the son of CCUSA-member Joe Gritton and a graduate of Manhattan High in Manhattan, Kansas. In high school, Casey competed on the varsity golf team and was a member of the Business Professionals of America association. There, he competed on the Financial Analyst Team where he achieved success as member of their top-ranked team in Kansas that later went on to be invited to compete on a national level.

This year Casey begins his junior year of college at Kansas State University where he majors in Industrial Engineering and expects to graduate in 2024 with his Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering. Upon the completion of his bachelor's degree, Casey plans to continue his education by attending graduate school and earning a master's degree in Business Administration to prepare him for a career in consulting and logistics.

Casey has an extensive history volunteering with Youth Impacting Community (Y.I.C.) organization in Manhattan, Kansas, is a member of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity at Kansas State University, and is an Eagle Scout.

Congratulations to Casey Gritton for being selected as a recipient of the 2022 Clan Carmichael USA Scholarship. We at Clan Carmichael USA wish you the best of luck in your academic endeavors and are proud to be able to help you achieve your goals!

SPOTTED: CARMICHAEL COUSINS



(Left) Clan Carmichael banner keepers preparing for the parade of tartans at the Stone Mountain Highland Games

(Below) Stacey Carmichael and Richard Hall at the Austin Celtic Festival



(Left) Stan Carmichael with granddaughters Susannah and Rose at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in Georgia.



(Right) On a recent outing, Tommie Carmichael stopped by the James V. Carmichael Student Center at Kennesaw State University.



STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES

50TH ANNIVERSARY - 10/15 & 10/16



EVENTS CALENDAR

november

Fall Hawaii Scottish Gathering
and Games
Honolulu, HI - **12th**

St. Andrew's Day
Nov. 30

february

Tallahassee Highland Games
Tallahassee, FL - **11th -12th**

Asheville Celtic Festival
Asheville, NC - **18th**

december

The Pipes of Christmas
New York, NY
Dec. 17th

Hogmanay
Dec. 31-Jan 2

march

Phoenix Scottish Games
Gilbert, AZ - **3rd- 5th**

South Florida Scottish Festival and
Highland Games
Plantation, FL. - **4th**

january

Winter Storm Weekend
Kansas City, MO - **12th**

Central Florida Highland Games
Winter Springs, FL - **14th - 15th**

Burns Night
Jan. 25th

CARMICHAEL COOKERY

Carmichael-Approved Cinnamon Rolls

Josephine Carmichael, Sparta, TN

(Rolls)	(Cinnamon/sugar mix)
1 cup milk	2 T. cinnamon
1 stick butter	1/2 cup light brown sugar
1 packet yeast	
1 T. sugar	(Icing)
1 egg	4 oz cream cheese
1 tsp. vanilla	powdered sugar
3 cups flour	1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 tsp. salt	salt



Warm milk and 1/2 stick butter to 105-115 degrees.

In bowl, combine yeast and sugar, then combine with milk and butter. Mix, and let sit for 10 mins. covered with a towel. While waiting, combine cinnamon, brown sugar in a bowl and mix. After 10 minutes, add salt, egg, vanilla, to yeast mix. Add two cups of flour to yeast mix, then stir. Gradually add last cup of flour while kneading dough until well combined (~10 minutes). Roll dough flat (approx. a 14-18" rectangle). Spread leftover 1/2 stick of butter evenly over top of the dough, then add cinnamon mix on top. Roll entire dough into lengthwise log. With dental floss or fine string, cut into 12 rolls. (Put string under dough, then cut by "tying" the string.) Place rolls into a buttered 9x13 glass glass pan. Let sit for one hour covered with a towel. Bake 350 degree for 20-25 minutes.

For icing, combine room temperature cream cheese, vanilla, a pinch of salt, and sweeten with powdered sugar to taste. (Approximately 1/2 cup of powdered sugar)

EDITOR'S NOTE

Hello cousins!

I'm so excited to tell you that this *Eagle Gate* is the last one you'll be receiving in its current format. As discussed on pages 4 and 5 of this issue, increased shipping costs are requiring some changes to our publication schedule.

But I find that late fall is a great time to say goodbye to old things and welcome the new. In fact, my home in North Dakota is doing that in a dramatic way: we enjoyed several lovely, colorful 70-degree days at the beginning of this month. Today, November 10, all five members of my family are home together because of a dramatic and blustery blizzard that has already deposited 13+ inches of snow, and is on track to continue throughout the night.

It's hard to believe that less than one month ago, I was breaking a slight sweat at the Stone Mountain Games with cousins familiar (Alana, Scott, Brian, and my family) and new (Art, Warren "Z", and Betsy). I enjoyed the entire Saturday we spent there, especially becoming acquainted with new friends, but it went by too quickly. We never seem to have enough time enjoying the ones we love, do we?

So this winter, helped along by a serious amount of snow, I'm hoping to spend more time snuggled up with those I love. I hope that you're able to do the same! Please don't forget to share your holiday photos with us by emailing me at newsletter@clancarmichaelusa.com. I can't wait to hear from you.

Tout jour prest!

leah

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