

THE WINTER 2023 | ISSUE 137

THE EAGLE GATE

Official Newsletter of Clan Carmichael USA



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Alana Carmichael Nigro, CCUSA President



Hello cousins,

Many of us have just returned from an awesome weekend at the 51st annual Stone Mountain Highland games, and it was one of our best in recent years! This was due in part to Andrew Carmichael of Carmichael (Chief Richard's son and heir) being there. Andrew was traveling on business in the states, and we worked it out so he could attend. This was only the second Games in the U.S. that Andrew had attended, the last being at Grandfather Mountain in 1988 when he was about 11 years old! Andrew told me he had very fond memories of those games he attended as a child and had hoped the experience as an adult at the Stone Mountain games would not disappoint. Before

leaving for the airport on Sunday, he shared with me that the experience far exceeded his expectations. He had a great time with all his U.S. Carmichael cousins, and the Stone Mountain games committee treated him like the distinguished guest that he was. He is ready to return to the U.S. along with his family!

The other thing that made these games so great was the many Carmichaels who were in attendance from one end of the country to another. We had many new Carmichaels stop by the tent and express interest in joining CCUSA. There was a certain excitement and enthusiasm that I had not felt in a long time, and I am extremely hopeful that our numbers will grow and enthusiasm for our Clan organization and family will continue for many years.

That said, I will be concluding my 2nd term as CCUSA President at the end of this year, so this will be my last newsletter message as your CCUSA President. I leave you in great hands with some enthusiastic and competent leadership, which were elected at our CCUSA Board meeting over the SMHG weekend. Judge Stan Carmical from North Carolina will be our new President; Scott Carmichael from Tennessee (our recent Membership Chairman) will be our Vice President; and Marie Carmichael from Massachusetts will be Treasurer. At the meeting, we also reviewed and amended our bylaws and decided to reduce the number of board members from to fifteen to nine - a number that better fits the size of our 501c3 organization. We will be coming together again as a board over the next three months to establish new committees and will designate chairs for each committee. These committees will help to get more members involved in areas that may interest them, and we hope it will encourage more folks to join our organization.

As I say goodbye as your President, I would like to reflect on the many years that I've been involved with our beloved Clan Carmichael. You all know how I got involved, which I have written about in previous newsletters. From that time in Scotland 40 years ago, I have served

in every leadership position (Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chairman, VP, and President) multiple times, even continuing to serve through difficult times in my life. The reason for this is simply because of my love and dedication to our extended clan family and to try and make sure that Clan Carmichael USA never went away.

Through these years I have had some of the best times of my life and made some of my closest friends. While not always directly related, we always share a common bond of kinship. There's something special about being together at a clan gathering in Scotland, or a Scottish event here in the U.S. With common heritage as a bond, it's like no other gathering you might experience. You meet "cousins" from all over the world and within just a short period of time, you feel a closeness and kinship making you feel as if you've known them your entire life. I cherish each and every one of these friendships and I look forward to making many more in the years to come. Although I'm rolling off as your President, I'm not going anywhere, and will continue to play an active role in Clan Carmichael USA as your Immediate Past President and "Old Historian" - as some have called me and cousin Arthur Carmichael recently.

My parting words are this: Reach out to your leadership and find a way that you might enjoy getting involved. Whether hosting a tent at a Highland Games or festival, assisting with our communications team, assisting our membership committee, or anything else that you think you might add to our clan - you will never regret it! And you will make lifelong friends that will be cherished forever. "*Tout Jour Prest*"

With Love,



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



The 51st Stone Mountain Highland Games were held over the weekend of October 20th - 22nd this year, and as usual, Clan Carmichael USA had a great turnout. The Stone Mountain Games are just outside the city of Atlanta, Georgia, and since many of CCUSA's members live in the Southeast, the number of members and old friends in attendance is usually great. This year was no exception!

2023 was extra special, however, because Clan Carmichael USA was excited to be joined by Andrew Carmichael the Younger of Carmichael. Andrew was honored by the Stone Mountain Highland Games as a Distinguished Guest, and an article about him was featured in the official Games program.

Each year, the Stone Mountain Highland Games puts on an festival that stands out among other events on the calendar. Clear skies, sunshine, and warm temperatures kept the weekend hospitable; through the trees, we could catch glimpses of the backdrop of the breathtaking quartz monzonite dome that gives the park its name.

Of course, the main attraction of the day for everyone was the Clan Carmichael USA tent, where Carmichaels young and old could come together to celebrate their proud Scottish heritage, share stories of recent travels to Scotland, and strengthen lifelong friendships.



The sense of kinship and belonging is always deeply evident at the clan tent, as each arrival is greeted with a string of hugs – even new faces. Stories are shared, and those in attendance catch up on what each has been into since the last time together. Everyone picks up right where they left off, no matter the length of time in between. It’s a satisfying reminder of our shared common heritage, and of the enduring bonds that tie us to our ancestral home.

Away from the tent, the Highland Games events themselves are an athletic spectacle to behold. From the caber toss to the sheaf toss to the hammer throw, athletes displayed incredible strength while the pipe and drum competition provided a stirring soundtrack for the day. Carmical sisters Kathryn and Leah were intrigued to discover that all amateur caber throwers were introduced by name, height, weight, distance record, and even current profession, leading Kathryn to muse that Highland athletic competitions were ideal husband markets. (Sadly for the athletes, both sisters are already married.)

Beyond the athleticism and traditions, the Stone Mountain Games also have a very pleasing selection of vendors for all things Celtic or British – Carmichaels could avail themselves of meat pasties, clootie dumplings, serious metalurgy or playful reproductions. More than one Carmichael was spotted tucking into a fresh scone, toffee pudding, or shortbread (and it didn’t hurt that there were bottles of whisky out for sharing). Best of all, the shady, woodland setting of the clan tents at the the Stone Mountain Highland Games continue to serve as a fantastic opportunity to spend quality time with friends and family – no matter how distant!

If you missed this year’s games, it’s never too early to start thinking about attending next year’s at Stone Mountain – or any other games events between now and then. Clan Carmichael has many things on the horizon and the upcoming year promises to deliver some really exciting opportunities for CCUSA. We hope to see you all there!



Ending Saturday’s competitions with *Amazing Grace* played by massed pipe bands.



Kylie Baker and Rosie Hargrove, Carmical cousins



Andrew Carmichael and Arthur Carmichael share a dram. Sláinte!



Alana Nigro, Scott and Marie Carmichael



Back: Alana Nigro, James Owen, and Carlie Brock, and Andrew Carmichael.
Front: Audrey Brock

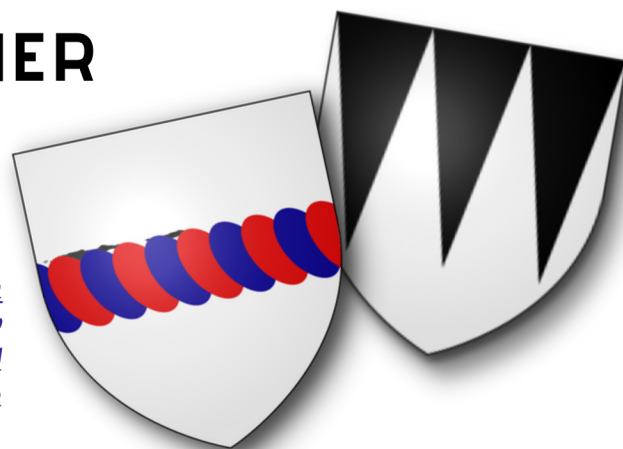


Nashville Drum and Pipe



CARMICHAEL-ANSTRUTHER OF ELIE HOUSE AND CARMICHAEL HOUSE

The following is reprinted from landedfamilies.blogspot.com with permission by the author, Nicholas Kingsley. Kingsley has collected background information on over 500 landed families, and requested that any errors be reported to him through the contact tab on his website.



The Anstruther family trace their lineage back to one William de Candela, who was lord of Anstruther in the East Neuk of Fife and died in about 1153. His grandson, Henry de Candela, dropped his patronymic in favour of the territorial name Anstruther, which his descendants have borne ever since. The outline genealogy of the family given in Burke's Peerage and Baronetage is clearly defective, or at least incomplete, for the period before the late 15th century, but Henry de Candela (fl. 1221) and a descendant of the same name (fl. 1292) were both patrons of Dryburgh Abbey in the Borders, and the second Henry went on crusade with King Louis IX. Andrew Anstruther (fl. 1483-1513) was granted a charter of his lands at Anstruther in 1483 and fought at the Battle of Flodden in 1513. His grandson, another Andrew Anstruther (d. 1547) was

killed at the Battle of Pinkie in the lifetime of his father. The Anstruther estate descended to his son, John Anstruther, who gave it to his son, Sir James Anstruther (d. 1606) in 1571. Sir James was appointed Hereditary Grand Carver by King James VI of Scotland in 1585 and Master of the Royal Household in Scotland in 1595; offices still held by the family today. His son, Sir William Anstruther (d. 1649), came south with King James and was one of his Gentlemen of the Bedchamber. At this time, the principal seat of the Anstruthers was a square tower known as Dreel Castle, which stood between Castle Wynd and the Dreel Burn in Anstruther, and which was probably built or rebuilt in the 16th century. To provide more up-to-date accommodation, Sir William acquired the Easter Anstruther manse as a new manor house in 1637; after his death it was used by his sister and in 1713 it was sold to the town council and returned to use by the minister.



Carmichael House, Lanarkshire, Scotland

B A C K G R O U N D

Sir William's brother, Sir Robert Anstruther (d. 1644/5) settled at Wheatley (Yorks) on an estate which he inherited from his wife's family. He was also a Gentleman of the Bedchamber, and served as a diplomat across



The Anstruther manse, used as a manor house by the Anstruthers 1637-1713, from an old postcard.

Europe between 1612 and 1638. His son, Sir Philip Anstruther (c.1630-1702), was an active Royalist during the Civil War, and inherited the Anstruther estates when his uncle died in 1649. He was captured after the final Royalist defeat at the Battle of Worcester in 1651, fined, and had his estates sequestrated. Dreel Castle may have been slighted during the Commonwealth period and was not re-occupied after Sir Philip recovered the estates at the Restoration, and the Manse was occupied by his aunt. He therefore built a new house called Anstruther Place in Anstruther Easter in 1663. The contract for building the house was made with Alexander Nesbit and provided for a four storey tower, 76 x 24 feet, with walls 4 feet thick. This castle was demolished in 1811 and its site is now occupied by the Clydesdale Bank.

Sir Philip Anstruther (c.1630-1702) had seven sons, five of whom were knighted or became

baronets. The eldest, Sir William Anstruther (d. 1711), was an MP from 1681-1707 and a Lord of Session as Lord Anstruther. He was responsible for buying an estate at Elie and building Elie House as the family's first proper country house, and at much the same time his younger brother bought the Balcaskie estate. Elie descended to Sir William's son, Sir John Anstruther (1673-1754), 1st bt., whose marriage to Lady Margaret Carmichael in 1717 eventually brought the Carmichael estates in Lanarkshire to their descendants a hundred years later. His son was Sir John Anstruther (1718-99), 2nd bt, who made a major addition to Elie House and carried out a landscaping scheme in about 1771 that involved the building of the surviving summerhouse known as the Lady's Tower, and the clearance of a hamlet called Balclevie to improve the view. It is said that an old woman whose home was demolished for these works cursed the family that only six generations of the family would live at Elie, which turned out to be true, but this was a decidedly procrastinated revenge, as Elie was not in fact sold until 1853!

Sir John's heir was his son, Sir Philip Anstruther-Paterson (1752-1808), 3rd bt., who added his wife's surname to his own on inheriting her family estate at Eccles in Berwickshire, which he later sold. He died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother, Sir John Anstruther (1753-1811), 4th bt., who had already been made a baronet of Great Britain on retiring from Parliament to become Chief Justice of Bengal in 1798. His eldest son, Sir John Anstruther (d. 1818), 5th bt., came into the Carmichael estates on the

BACKGROUND

death of the 6th Earl of Hyndford in 1817, and the family thereafter became the Carmichael-Anstruthers*. The 5th baronet died young and his widow produced their only son and heir a few days later; tragically, he died in a shooting accident while at Eton in 1831, so the title and estates reverted to his uncle, Sir Windham Carmichael-Anstruther (1793-1869), 7th & 4th bt. During a long life of expensive self-indulgence and financial incompetence he was bankrupted five times. He sold Elie House to the industrialist William Baird in 1853 and moved the focus of the family's interests to Lanarkshire, where Carmichael House was an eccentrically planned, because incomplete, 18th century house. He lived, however, mainly at Westraw House on the estate, and it was probably his son who added the Victorian shaped gables to Carmichael House.

Sir Windham was succeeded his elder son, Sir Windham Charles James Carmichael-Anstruther (1825-98), 8th & 5th bt., who appears to have let Carmichael House. When he died the ownership passed in quick succession to his son, Sir Windham Robert Carmichael-Anstruther (1877-1903), 9th & 6th bt., and his grandson, Sir Windham Frederick Carmichael-Anstruther (1902-28), 10th & 7th bt., who died without issue. The heir in 1928 was a grandson of the 8th baronet's younger half-brother, Sir Windham Eric Francis Carmichael-Anstruther (1900-80), 11th & 8th bt., who unroofed Carmichael House in 1954 and lived at East End House. When he died, the Scottish baronetcy passed to Sir Ralph Hugo Anstruther (1921-2002), 7th bt. of Balcaskie; the British baronetcy created in 1798 became extinct. The

Carmichael estate, however, and the Chieftainship of the Carmichael clan, passed to Richard Carmichael, who traces his descent from Brig.Gen. James Carmichael (d. 1737), 2nd Earl of Hyndford.



Elie House from the south, showing the original house of 1697 and, at the left, the end of the 18th century block.

The core of the house is a plain block of rubble stone with roll-moulded windows, built by Sir William Anstruther after he bought the estate in 1697, on the site of an earlier mansion house built by Sir William Scott in the late 16th century; some of the windows on the south elevation were apparently re-used from the earlier house, most of which was however retained as outbuildings until it was demolished in 1854-55. William Adam made some minor changes to the house in about 1740, including the addition of a carved pediment, but his scheme for rebuilding the house (illustrated in *Vitruvius Scoticus*) was not carried out. However, about 1762 a large ashlar-faced north-west wing was added to the design of George Paterson of Edinburgh, with a nine bay main front to the west that has a three bay centre and a central pediment: perhaps the one which Adam supplied, re-

BACKGROUND

used. Inside, the south-west room on the principal floor has Rococo plasterwork.

After Elie House was sold to William Baird, alterations were made in 1854-55, including the reconstruction of the east side with a new entrance porch and ogee-topped tower; the provision of an imperial stair to the original front door on the west, and the addition of Scots Baronial dormerheads on the south side. In the 1950s the house became a Retreat house for the Marie Reparatrice order of Nuns, and a large chapel was built for their use by Peter Whiston in 1958, as well as other utilitarian additions. In 2000, Elie was sold to a property developer who restored the house and converted it into 13 apartments: conversion and restoration was completed in 2012. The Elie estate with the exception of Elie House is owned and managed by the Trustees of the Elie Estate Trust under the stewardship of Sir Michael Nairn (4th Bt) and his son Alex Nairn, who now lives on the Estate with his wife and two young children.

Carmichael House , Lanarkshire

The Carmichaels held the lands from the 13th century and in 1710 there was a "good substantial old house, much repaired and well finished of late, very well planted, with a noble avenue from the house to the church". This house was demolished by John Carmichael, 3rd Earl of Hyndford (1701-67), who built the five-bay two-storey west wing of an intended new house in about 1754 and the matching east wing shortly before his death; his architect is unknown. The main block that would have

connected them was never built, but instead a long connecting corridor was built, with a central tower pavilion. The present shaped and ogee gables with finials and urns are presumably a Victorian jazzing-up of the original plain hipped-roofed blocks, and give the building a rather exotic air.

The house was occupied into the 20th century, but was unroofed in 1954-55. In the 1980s, the house was inherited by [Richard Burbidge,] an accountant from New Zealand who established his claim to be chief of the Carmichael clan and pledged 'to restore the capot of my barony of Carmichael and the spiritual heartland of all Carmichaels worldwide' so that it will again become 'a modern baronial house for the future chiefs of Carmichael for the next few hundred years'. Plans [have changed] since and in the mid-1990s there were plans for converting the house into holiday accommodation. [A roof was added to the central tower of Carmichael at one point, but since then there have been no other significant changes to the house.] The house is now on the buildings-at-risk register.



Carmichael House: the ruins of the west wing and central tower and corridor.

Eastend House , Lanarkshire

On the southern boundary of the Carmichael estate, Eastend House was originally a separate estate occupied by a branch of the Carmichael family who separated from the senior line around 1500. It comprises a 37 room mansion house of four floors with the oldest visible part of the building, which is claimed to have a much more ancient nucleus, being an early 16th century keep. To this were added tall crowstepped wings to the east and west in 1673, and these in turn were joined up on the south by a typical 18th century bow-fronted addition which completely obscured the keep on that side. In the mid 19th century large “Scottish baronial” extensions were added to the west. Because of an outbreak of dry rot, the house is not currently habitable.



East End House: the south front is now mainly 18th century but masks a 16th century or earlier core.

Descent: Sir John Carmichael, kt.; to cousin, James Carmichael (1579-1672), 1st Lord Carmichael; to grandson, John Carmichael (1637/8-1710), 2nd Lord Carmichael & 1st Earl of Hyndford; to son, James Carmichael (d. 1737), 2nd Earl of Hyndford; to son, John Carmichael (1701-67), 3rd Earl of Hyndford; to widow, Jean Carmichael, Countess of Hyndford (d. 1807); to her husband's cousin, Thomas Carmichael (c.1750-1811), 5th Earl of Hyndford; to son, Andrew Carmichael (d. 1817), 6th Earl of Hyndford; to kinsman, Sir John Anstruther (later Carmichael-Anstruther) (d. 1818), 5th & 2nd bt.; to son, Sir John Carmichael-Anstruther (1818-31), 6th & 3rd bt.; to uncle, Sir Windham Carmichael-Anstruther (1793-1869), 7th & 4th bt.; to son, Sir Windham Charles James Carmichael-Anstruther (1825-98), 8th & 5th bt.; to son, Sir Windham Robert Carmichael-Anstruther (1877-1903), 9th & 6th bt.; to son, Sir Windham Frederick Carmichael-Anstruther (1902-28), 10th & 7th bt.; to second cousin, Sir Windham Eric Francis Carmichael-Anstruther (1900-80), 11th & 8th bt., who unroofed the house; to Richard Carmichael (b. c.1948).



Much more information can be found about the Carmichael-Anstruther Houses on the landedfamilies.blogspot.com website including a more detailed account for each of the above-mentioned baronets.



CLAN CARMICHAEL



HAEEL IN 2023



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

MEMBERSHIP AS GIFTS

Like most of us, I owe my Carmic(h)a(e)l heritage to my dad, Stan Carmical, but not just because of genetics and patronymics—my dad has always been very intentional about keeping my sister and me connected to our heritage. For years, he’s recommended quality Scottish books, movies, music, and events, but most importantly—and especially when we were in our broke college years—he ensured that we stayed connected to CCUSA by paying our membership dues. Now I’m a paying member for my own family, but I’m not sure I would have joined as quickly if that relationship hadn’t already been set up for me through gifting. If you’re considering holiday gifts that generate zero waste and require no storage this year, why not a membership?



What's New?

ON

CARMICHAEL CLAN RADIO

Scott Carmichael | After a short hiatus over the summer months, I’m back in the studio (my home office) working hard to bring new episodes of Carmichael Clan Radio to you, the loyal listeners. I’m excited about the lineup of guests that will be on the show this season!

When I started recording these shows, I had no idea how rewarding it would prove. It’s truly a labor of love and a most rewarding educational experience. Each time I see a new episode go out, I’m eager to share what I’ve learned, and hope that each one of you enjoys listening to it as much as I enjoyed creating it.

As I ask at the end of each show, if you’re enjoying listening, please help spread the word by sharing episodes with your family and friends, reposting it Facebook or other social media, and by leaving feedback and comments. It helps new listeners find the show! And most of all, thank you *all* for your continued support!



2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Clan Carmichael USA holds open meetings once a year for all members to attend. This year, as in recent years, the meeting took place at Stone Mountain, with open attendance via Zoom. 9 in-person and 3 virtual attendees participated to hear updates relating to membership, the newsletter, finances, and elections.

The big news this year was that the CCUSA board adopted a new strategic plan (more, below) to set a map for the next 3 years. Also newsworthy was the election of Stan Carmical to the presidency, Scott Carmichael as vice president, and Marie Carmichael as treasurer.

Everyone offered Alana Nigro hearty thanks for her time as president of the organization, and congratulations and encouragement offered to all new members. No new board members were added in 2023. We were also pleased to have Andy in attendance for the first time!



NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

Every healthy organization takes a periodic inventory of itself and takes time to thoughtfully chart a course for its future. Clan Carmichael USA's board of directors did so on Friday, October 20, taking 4 very busy hours to look at current strengths and opportunities to then create a plan for the next 3-5 years.

Out of that brainstorming session, the CCUSA board came up with three main goals:

1. Prioritize fundraising
2. Have active, engaged committees (**media, membership, events, finance, and scholarship**)
3. Begin supporting regional events outside of Highland Games

Given these goals, be prepared to see some exciting activities in 2024 relating to fundraising and support opportunities, new volunteering roles (we need you!), and chances to engage with other clansmen and clanswomen in things like virtual Burns Night, local potlucks, and hikes. We don't know what other clans are up to, but we highly suspect they aren't about to have as much fun as Clan Carmichael. TJP!

In person: Marie, Art, Alana and Leah (standing). Not pictured: Stan



Virtual: Scott, Vicki, (FM) John, Brian, (Lantana) John





C. ED CARMICHAEL, WHISKEY, AND THE MAKING OF A TOURIST TOWN

Guest contribution by David Rakes, historian
Florida Advertising Jugs

Authors: David Kyle Rakes and Corey Lee Stock

During the 19th and 20th centuries, whiskey men dealt with the forces of prohibition in a variety of ways. Some fought it. Others tried tactics to get around it. Still others submitted, went into a different occupation, or retired.

C. Ed Carmichael employed a considerably different strategy. He used “going dry” as an incentive to make his home town of Ocala, Florida, into a tourist destination through a distinctively “wet” idea.



George Carmichael and his son Columbus Ed (known as C. Ed) were successful whiskey distillers in Ocala during the late 1800s. Although alcohol was illegal in many Florida counties, a loop-hole in interstate commerce laws allowed for the shipment of spirits to these areas. The Carmichaels moved their product by rail and made a fortune.

The youngest of four children at his birth in 1869, he was christened Columbus Ed Carmichael, likely a capricious choice of his father, George, and a laugh for his older siblings. Shown above as a young man, he preferred through his life to be known as C. Ed Carmichael.

C. Ed, while still a teenager relocated to Ocala with his family. He helped his father establish a combined saloon, wholesale whiskey business, and grocery store there. He also met Lula Wilkins. She had been born in Georgia, the daughter of Robert and Eliza Wadsworth Wilkins. At the time of their marriage in 1889, he was 19 and she was 15. They would have one son, born in 1894, whom they named Weller Larue.

The liquor business of Carmichael & Son proved very successful as they developed a thriving mail order business for their whiskey. Even then under local option, communities in Florida and adjoining states were going “dry” but their residents could still obtain liquor shipped from elsewhere under the protection of the Interstate Commerce Clause of the Constitution.

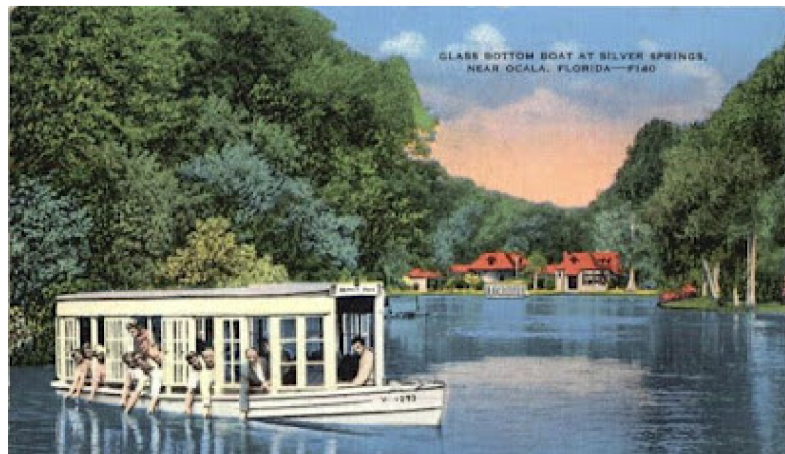


The Carmichaels shipped their liquor, perhaps distilled on their premises, usually by rail in ceramic jugs. These half-gallon and gallon containers have been found at sites far from Ocala. The Carmichaels also are known to have used embossed glass containers for their beverages.

The wealth generated by the liquor trade allowed C. Ed in 1906 the money to buy land in an area near Ocala called Silver Springs. Those springs are among the largest artesian spring formations in the world, producing nearly 550 million gallons of crystal-clear water daily. The springs form the headwaters of the Silver River, a part of the St. Johns River System. Carmichael initially used the site as a steamboat landing for passengers and freight. At the other end of the steamboat line was Jacksonville, Florida. A railroad spur ran to Ocala.

In 1915, same year his father, George, died, Marion County by referendum voted to ban all alcohol sales within its boundaries. Carmichael & Son with its thriving mail order whiskey business was forced to close down.

In 1924, now 55 years old, Carmichael leased his Silver Springs holdings to other entrepreneurs who greatly expanded the tourist facilities. Among innovations were glass bottomed boats that floated over the lucid waters allowing people to see more than forty feet to the bottom. Postcards from Silver Springs often featured the boats with passengers eager to feel the beautiful cool waters.



Carmichael remained active in on the Ocala scene, serving as a Marion County commissioner and owning a successful tourist court near the springs. Shown below is a postcard view of C. Ed's bamboo home on the adjacent Silver River. I speculate that the man sitting comfortably in a rocking chair at the right side of the porch is none other than Carmichael himself, content to look out at the tourist mecca he had helped create.



"I speculate that the man sitting comfortably in a rocking chair at the right side of the porch is none other than Carmichael himself."



C. Ed died in 1940, age 71, and was buried in Marion County's Woodlawn Cemetery.



CLAN CARMICHAEL

Still searching for the perfect gift this holiday season? Don't worry; we've got you covered!

Clan Carmichael Gathering 40th Anniversary Commemorative Print

After having Andrew Carmichael as a guest on the Carmichael Clan Radio podcast in January 2023 to talk about the then upcoming Carmichael gathering, Clan Carmichael USA and Clan Carmichael International had the thought that it would be nice to create some sort of lasting memento to 2023's gathering, as it marked the 40th year since Chief Richard had first begun hosting Carmichael gatherings at Carmichael, Scotland.

Not only was it a significant anniversary event, but the 2023 gathering would also follow the longest period between gatherings, after previous attempts to organize had been postponed because of the global pandemic that put much of the world at a stand-still.

To commemorate this significant milestone of Clan Carmichael, it was decided that a print would be created to honor not only the occasion, but to also celebrate Chief Richard's dedicated leadership over the years. The

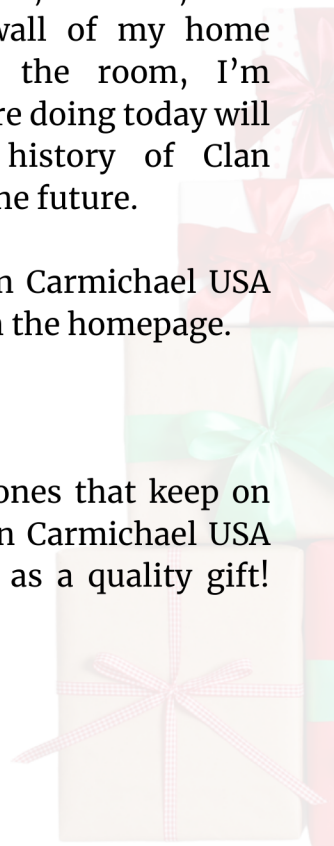
result of this project is a beautiful, limited-edition print designed by Scottish artist and author Katie Carmichael showcasing Chief Richard and several iconic structures well-known to Clan Carmichael. To create a print that would last through the ages, it was decided to print on heavyweight, archival paper, using a gloss coating to preserve the richness of the colors through the years. Each copy would then be signed by the artist and numbered 1 through 150.

This Christmas, we hope you'll consider purchasing a print for you or your family members – or both! I can personally report that when matted and framed, these prints look fantastic! I have mine matted, framed, and proudly displayed on the wall of my home office. Each time I enter the room, I'm reminded that the things we're doing today will all be part of the long history of Clan Carmichael as we move into the future.

To order yours, visit the Clan Carmichael USA website and follow the link on the homepage.

CCUSA Membership

If the greatest gifts are the ones that keep on giving, then the gift of a Clan Carmichael USA membership surely qualifies as a quality gift! (continued)



HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

At the Stone Mountain Highland Games and CCUSA annual general meeting this year, several long-time members talked about having gotten their start because of the generosity of an elder relative.

Providing a membership on behalf of someone else allows them a low-barrier way of encountering the wider clan family for the first time, through the newsletter, invitations to events, and opportunities to participate in volunteer and leadership roles. Once that connection and value are established, these new members choose to support their own future membership dues, and become longtime friends and supporters.

Origins of Clan Carmichael Mini-Book

A great idea that Art Carmichael mentioned from his family's past Christmases is including the small and easily digestible *Origins of Clan Carmichael* book into family stockings. At only 32 pages long, this little book is a wonderful way to introduce Carmichaels (and other variants of the spelling) to our shared clan history.

Sold for £3.99 through the Carmichael Estate in Scotland (about \$5.00), the book recounts the origins of the Carmichael Clan and our place in history. An absolute must-buy for any Carmichael, and ideal for anyone, Carmichael or not, curious for more history on the remarkable Clan.

If you're like me (Leah) and have children still at home, I'd say this book is probably best suited to kids 10 and up, or 7 and up with a grownup to help with some of the trickier terms and historical contexts. Be prepared to encounter not only Sir John de Carmichael, who earned our family's badge, but also Katherine Carmichael, mistress of King James V, songwriter Hoagy, and actress Laura (from Downtown Abbey).



GIVING TUESDAY

November 28th, 2023

GivingTuesday (recognized as the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving) was created in 2012 as a simple idea: *a day that encourages people to do good*. Over the past ten years, the idea has grown into a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to *give*, collaborate, and celebrate generosity year-round.

The movement continues to grow each year in total donation volume, reach, and impact. In 2022, an estimated \$3.1 Billion were donated in twenty-four hours in the U.S. alone, a 15% increase over the prior year and a 25% increase since 2020. On November 29, 2022 37 million adults participated by offering gifts of time, voice, skills, goods, and money, as well as countless acts of kindness inspired by the movement.

This year, **GivingTuesday falls on November 28**, and Clan Carmichael USA is asking each member to consider making a tax-deductible donation to help CCUSA continue to expand our organization and its ability to take on new projects, events, and campaigns as we move into the future.

To donate, go to Clan Carmichael USA's website (www.clanarmichaelusa.com), then click the "Donate" button at top-right of the homepage.

CCUSA Clan Carmichael USA has recently established the goal to significantly increase the total amount of donations, rather than increasing member dues in order to allow CCUSA to begin hosting regional events, and to implement initiatives that will aid in the preservation of Carmichael history, structures, monuments, and other exciting new philanthropic activities. Additionally, donations can be made toward the Clan Carmichael USA Scholarship Fund to assist the educational pursuits of more applicants, and with larger scholarships.



When making a donation, you can choose from the following options as to how you would like to donate: *one-time, mostly, quarterly, semiannually, and annually*. Perhaps the easiest and most popular methods of donating is to make a monthly contribution. This donation will be automatically processed each month and will *greatly* help Clan Carmichael USA.

Thanks so much for considering making a donation this year to Clan Carmichael USA! We're so thankful for your continued membership, and for your generosity moving into the future.

CARMICHAEL CORNER KIRK

"Embracing the Spirit of Christmas: A Scottish-American Celebration"

As we gather with our loved ones during the Christmas season, we, as Scottish descendants, find ourselves immersed in a rich tapestry of tradition and celebration. Christmas is a time to cherish our ancestral roots while enjoying the festive spirit that fills our hearts and homes.

Prior to the Reformation in the mid 1550s, Christmas in Scotland—like elsewhere in Christendom—was commemorated each year as a religious feasting day. But as the Protestant Reformation swept across Europe, the Kirk in Scotland became deeply suspicious of anything related to Roman Catholicism.

Eventually the Scottish Parliament passed a law in 1640 which made celebrating 'Yule vacations' illegal. Despite the fact that Charles II (known as the 'Merry Monarch') was restored to the throne in 1660, celebrating Christmas was still deeply frowned upon in Scotland for centuries.

In fact, December 25 only became a public holiday in Scotland in 1958. That means there are plenty of Scottish people still alive today who remember going to work on Christmas day!

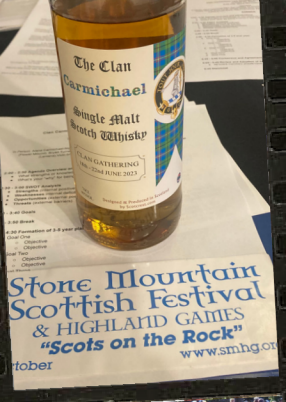
One tradition that survived in Scotland is that of the 'first-footer.' First-footer is a term used to describe the first person to show up at your house on Christmas Day. First-footers traditionally arrive and bless their hosts by bringing a range of treats including whisky, salt and bread. It's also traditional for first-footers to offer 'black buns' to their hosts - made from a delicious mix of raisins, currants, almonds, citrus peel, allspice, ginger and cinnamon - all topped off with a layer of pastry.

The act of gift-giving is a cherished tradition among Christians and non-Christians alike at Christmastime, mirroring the Magi who brought gifts to the newborn King. As we exchange gifts this Christmas, let us not forget the greatest gift of all—the love of God and the message of hope brought into the world by the birth of Jesus. While we enjoy the festive season, it's essential to reflect on the love, joy, and togetherness that Christ's birth symbolizes.

This year, we honor our heritage while embracing the festive spirit that unites us with others around the world. May the spirit of Christmas fill your heart and home with love, laughter, and the joy of sharing.



SPOTTED: CARMICHAEL COUSINS



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CARMICHAEL COOKERY



This past September, we were honored to be joined on Carmichael Clan Radio by the international best-selling author, Coinneach MacLeod - a.k.a. The Hebridean Baker. Coinneach calls himself a “passionate home baker” and is the author of three fantastic cookbooks that are doing their part to keep alive the recipes, stories, and culture of the Outer Hebrides.

If you haven't picked up copies of his cookbooks, be sure to do so! His newest release, *The Hebridean Baker: At Home* can now be preordered on Amazon, and will arrive in your mailbox on its release date (Feb. 13, 2024). Below is a recipe that appears in his second book that he was kind enough to share with us! Enjoy!

Caledonian Cream

Coinneach MacLeod (The Hebridean Baker), Isle of Lewis, Scotland

Catherine Callbeck Dalgairns (aka Mrs Dalgairns) was a Canadian/Scottish cookbook author born in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. First published in 1829, her cookbook *The Practise of Cookery* was written to inspire novice housekeepers to prepare dishes that were in fashion at the time.

I've taken inspiration from her Caledonian Cream recipe (one of the 1,434 recipes in her book!). This is a simple dish that combines wonderful kitchen cupboard Scottish ingredients. Easy to whip up at the last minute for those unexpected guests! (Serves 4)

- 300ml double cream
- 20g caster sugar
- Juice & zest of half an orange
- 200g marmalade
- 50ml whisky

In a bowl mix together 100g of the marmalade along with the whisky, juice from the orange, and sugar. Take a second bowl and whip your cream until peaks appear. Fold the marmalade mixture into your whipped cream. Use the additional 100g of marmalade to create a layer to the bottom of each dish, before dolloping your infused cream on top. Serve with a scattering of orange zest.



UPCOMING SCOTTISH EVENTS, FESTIVALS, AND HOLIDAYS

December 2023

December 1 - December 2
Scottish North American Community
Conference

Washington, DC

The Conference is an opportunity for those in the Scottish North American community to share views, values, experiences and best practices. Info:
www.scottishleadershipconference.com

December 16 - December 17

The Pipes of Christmas

New York, NY

www.pipesofchristmas.com

December 31

Happy Hogmanay

Happy Hogmanay and best wishes for a happy and healthy 2024!

March

March 2

40th Southeast Florida Scottish Festival &
Highland Games

Plantation, FL

www.sassf.org

March 2

Panama City Beach Scottish Festival

Panama City Beach, FL

March 9- March 10

St. Augustine Celtic Music & Heritage
Festival

St. Augustine, FL

www.celticstaugustine.com

January 2024

January 6 - January 7

Florida Keys Celtic Festival

Marathon, FL

www.floridakeyscecticfestival.com

January 11 - January 14

Winter Storm

Kansas City, MO

www.mhaf.org

January 13 - January 14

Central Florida Scottish Highland
Games

Winter Park, FL

www.flascot.com

January 25

Burns Night

Worldwide Celebration

February

February 2 - February 4

Balmoral Winter Workshop

Virtual Event

*Balmoral will offer an online, weekend-long
Winter Workshop for Pipers & Drummers.*

*Workshop attendees receive instruction on
the Great Highland pipes and Scottish
smallpipes. Info:*

www.balmoralschoolofpiping.org

February 3 - February 4

Tallahassee Highland Games

Tallahassee, FL

www.TallyHighlandGames.com

February 17 - February 18

Mount Dora Scottish Highland Festival

Mount Dora, FL

February 17 - February 18

Asheville Celtic Festival

Fletcher, NC

www.ashevillecelticfest.com

DON'T FORGET!

As we wind down another successful year at Clan Carmichael USA, it's a great time to do a little maintenance to your membership and account on Wild Apricot. Log in and ensure the following:

- Your CCUSA membership is current
- Your payment information is up-to-date
- Check that current contact information is correct
- Enjoy another year of Clan Carmichael USA membership!

www.clancarmichaelusa.wildapricot.org/home

