



## T H E B U L L ' S E Y E B U L L - E - T I N

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D. T. Berk, Editor

### HIGHLAND GAMES - UPCOMING AND REPORTS

October 19th, 21st & 22nd, 1989 - STONE MOUNTAIN HIGHLAND GAMES - Stone Mountain, Georgia - hosted by Barbara and John W. Turnbull, Lake Lure, N. C. - Bob Foster is instrumental in making all the arrangements for our first tent at these Games.

On October 19th, 8:00PM, Stone Mountain Park Coliseum, there will be a 2 1/2 hour musical extravaganza - Military Band Tattoo - Pipe Bands, Brass Bands and Scottish Highland and Country Dancers, Bands from Scotland, Canada and U.S. A. - Scottish Festival and Highland Games - October 21st and 22nd, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Stone Mountain Park Meadow.

October 28 - WAXHAW SCOTTISH GAMES - Waxhaw, North Carolina - hosted by Sally Turnbull Dupuis - Our first tent at these Games also.

CHICAGO GAMES REPORT - Held June 17th at the Glendale Polo Club, Glendale Heights, Illinois. It was a beautiful day with the exception of the wind which blew the tent down a few times. The poles were badly bent and members of another tent came to the rescue with some extra poles they weren't using.

The tent enjoyed a nice bit of traffic. About 100 flyers had been sent out to Turnbulls et al listed in the surrounding directories. A better than average response was very pleasing. Followup letters will now be sent out.

We had the pleasure of a visitor from Scotland, Andrew Turnbull, Brig O'Turk, Perthshire. Andrew is a student at the University of Edinburgh visiting the area for the summer. He couldn't believe his eyes when his hostess steered him to the Turnbull tent. He had never attended any Scottish Games before and was thrilled that his visit coincided with the Chicago Games.

This is the third year that the Games have been sponsored by the Ill. St. Andrew Society and each year has seen improvements and growth. There were eighteen Pipe Bands and the "Scotsaire's" the Grade 1 band from London, Brit. walked away with all the honors. They were tremendous! Most had a chance to enjoy the band and others that night at the Ceilidh, a grand and enjoyable affair, went on til past midnite.

The Highland Dancers were well represented with 92 dancers competing for dance honors. The other entertainment throughout the day was varied and pleasing.

Hats off to the Committee - Chicago can now boast Highland Games to be proud of.



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July 6, 1989

TURNBULL FAMILY REUNION  
AN ACCOUNTING

July 1, 1989 Turnbolls gathered one mile west of Porter Hill at Benson and Hilda's and John and Stella's spread to reflect upon days past and make fresh acquaintance with a new crop of the prolific clan.

Weather beautiful, and food a-plenty the day was most invigorating. Ole Don Turnbull insisted on the time and place of the event and prodded the sleeping interest to life in some of the shoddy crew. He also slow cooked some gourmet brisket to whet the palate of the hungry bunch.

Most notable to the visual observer was the delegation "Weedens." Ranging from 6'2" to 6'7" in the form of "5" strapping men and lil sister Georgia Faye, it was heard said, "I sure want to have another reunion in at least three years cause I want to see those "Weeden Boys" before they get full grown!"

Champion yarn spinner Ole Benson Turnbull out did himself this go-around. Not only did he tell the most unbelievable shady yarn but he broke all records in extending the climax of what ever the point of his ramblings were. One unbeliever was heard to say, "I believe all that high altitude flying has finally got to him."

Ole Rose Grant was a hands down winner of being the "oldest Bull" what with 85 spunky years behind her. I believe she was a little embarrassed at Lil Brother Benson's yarn spinning but tactfully held her tongue.

The most unruly kids had to be the identical twin girls Lindsey and Whitney the 3 year olds of Perry R. and Melinda Turnbull but their cousin Gisselle Torgerson(same age) certainly made her presence known. If it hadn't been for the Horse Tank(Swimming Pool) Benson had hauled in and filled with water the adults wouldn't of had no peace at all!

Everyone, promised to fill out, and some even did, a family sheet.

Melinda Turnbull 1812 Elumira, Russellville AR 72801, has volunteered to be the family historian and is yet gathering facts and part truths about the marked offspring of Turnbolls long past.

Dorothy (Turnbull) Berk, head Clan's Man in USA consigned a couple boxes of Turnbull paraphernalia for the curious to pilfer through. We appreciate her support. Thanks Dorothy!



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Know this, we appreciate every single person who came and missed every single one who didn't come. For sure there's going to be another one in 1992 (just 3 years away). Ole Benson and Harry Lee Weeden and myself are supposed to meet summer of ninety one to pick the spot for '92.

Many of you have indicated having genealogy data and resources; to you I am enclosing my pedigree chart and ask that each of you reciprocate. Finally, it came to light that many of you are carrying heavy burdens and trials at this time. To you we send our love and caring and extend the offer to share your grief.

It is our prayer that "this too shall pass" and hope to see you in '92.

Sincerely,

Perry L. Turnbull

Dear Dottie:

Report on 1989 GMHG

Another good year. The week got off to a wet start. The NC mountains had it especially bad. We decided not to go to Banner Elk until Friday. This meant of course that I wouldn't be able to announce for the clan on Thursday night at MacRae meadow. However that old soldier Lt Col Bob Foster "stood up to be counted" and accompanied by his son in law Bruce Raich did the job for me. "From the Lowlands of Scotland, the Clan that saved King Robert The Bruce, The Turnbulls of Bedrule are here".

Friday noon, we arrived at Linville, i.e. Netta, Robin and me. Stopped at the Dunedin tent and bought six glasses and three cups with the Turnbull crest on them. Believe Bob Foster was instrumental in getting the owner to start carrying these items.

Friday night was the reception at GM Country Club. Enjoyed it more this time, since we are now getting to know a few people. The parking procedure continues to avoid resolution. Netta made a point of speaking with a lady who was wearing exactly the same dress as Netta. We again met Craig Long and his friend Allison. Craig spent two years at Edinburgh University on GMHG scholarships.

After the Reception we went to the Ceilidh for a short time. The place as usual was packed. There is a need for some new acts. However both Sally Turnbull Dupuis and Robin T stayed to the very end.

The new banner, created by Sally and Netta, proved to be too deep to be installed at the front of the tent so for this year we installed it at the back of the tent. We have the solution for next year. We plan to have two standards at the top of each corner, then string the banner between these standards. Sally and Netta did a great job and with this creative involvement makes it easier for me and more fun too. Passersby could easily read "TURNBULL CLAN ASSOCIATION". At the front we had our two tables covered by our dress tartan and an exhibit showing four different tartan fabrics under our "I Saved The King" motto.

### Tartan Ball

This was a success. There were two bands this year. Got into the swing of things with David and Nelia Gibbons, doing a "Dashing White Sergeant". David is President of the SC St. Andrews Soc. We lasted 'til 12:45. The band finished at 1 am. The Scottish dances are good mixers and hopefully there will be more of them next year. We had an interesting entrance, meeting General William Westmoreland at the door, as he was leaving. We recognized him, and introduced ourselves. The President of the Games made a plea for more people to attend the Tartan Ball. At \$25 per ticket, it is well worth the money. Somewhat embarrassing for the lady singer of the band from Canada, one of the inebriated guests told her to cool it on one of her songs, just as she was really getting into her stride!!.

### Attendance at the Games

12,000 on Saturday  
9,000 on Sunday

### Scottish National Trust

Honored guests were Donald and Catharine Erskine. They have represented the Trust for the last 14 years at GMHG. Donald has now retired after 28 years with the Trust. Netta told him he was a credit to Scotland. A fine figure of a man, he looked real good in his kilt. His remarks at the Reception and at the Tartan Ball were sincere and well presented. We did meet his replacement, Mr McQuarrie and his wife April. They are excellent ballroom dancers. When I complimented him on his dancing, he said he learned to dance to get a girlfriend. I think he must have had lots of girlfriends.

### Clan Scan

Well there we were in all our glory, on page 22 of the GMHG program. Even the bull looked appropriately menacing. A much better looking bull than that cissy we had before. You may have already received a copy of the program from Bob Foster. Would like the program back before next year.

### Members at GMHG 89

Sally Turnbull Dupuis ( broken ankle an' all)  
Bob Foster  
John W. and Barbara Turnbull  
John and Netta Turnbull

### Tent Guests

Bruce and Betsy Raich and children  
May , her husband, and daughter. (Friends of Bruce's)  
Mike and Islene Yates (Friends of mine.) Islene knows Myra quite well and even knows about Fatlips Castle.  
Don and Earline Turnbull  
Jim Eliot - Convener of Clan Eliot( I did pass along the condolences of the TCA on the death of Sir Arthur Eliot.)  
Jim and Valerie Gray, who indicated that someone over at the Hume tent was questioning who gave the Turnbulls the right to call themselves a Clan Association!!!!.

### Rustling

Seems like the Humes and the Gordons have been offering a home to Turnbulls lost from the fold. When I paid a visit to the Hume tent they were indeed willing to claim Turnbulls as a Sept. I tried to educate them!.

### Loretto Pipes and Drums

The boys from Loretto were at the Games. Loretto is a well known school in Musselburgh, on the outskirts of Edinburgh. Fine looking young men, well mannered and a credit to Scotland. They stayed at Lees McRae, which again was our home away from home.

### George Grant

George Grant told me he would be visiting George Turnbull in Granton on Spey in August. The latter George is the son of the Police Commissioner we refer to in the Clan Scan article. According to George Grant, the Grants (in the US ) formed a non profit company in Scotland, which with a majority of Scots as Directors, purchased a wee bit of the old country(with the US Grant's money). Wonder if TCA members might have an interest in doing something similar?.

## Sunday

Kirkin O The Tartan went off fine. As I stood there with the TCA banner, I noticed one of the guests; under a canopy, shaded from the bright morning sun, sat Nestor J. McDonald. A man I so admire. Nestor is getting to be an old man. At the Parade of Tartans, TCA was represented by Bruce Raich, his son Andrew, and yours truly.

## Name Tags

Thanks to the excellent efforts of Bob Foster, this year for the first time we had name tags. The price is six dollars. We punched out names on plastic strips which adhered to the blue aluminum TCA tag.

## Wedding

This was unexpected, and surely a first for GMHG. At the Memorial Cairn, just behind our tent, Jim Crawford of Clan Lindsay, and a member of SAMS was married with Lord and Lady Lindsay as witnesses. Seems that Jim was in Vietnam, was eventually listed as dead. On his return to the States, ("circumstances of my death were greatly exaggerated."), his wife had remarried and so Jim had to find a new bride. Eight SAMS men formed an arch with their swords. I took lots of photographs.

## The Piedmont Highlanders

On Saturday, Ken Swinton stopped at the tent to talk. Turned out he knows Myra, knows Hawick well and his mother is a Turnbull. Ken plays in the Piedmont Highlanders and he promised to bring the band to our tent on Sunday. True to his word he turned up at 2pm and played for us. His son also plays in the band. We all felt honored.

## Aberdour Trophy

I sponsored the prize for the "Kilted Mile, lads 13 to 15". In honor of my village in Scotland, I had the prize called "The Aberdour Trophy". Netta presented the prizes. This race was at much the same time as the chiefs' luncheon, but we did catch the end of the luncheon. The subject of Tent rotation had already been raised. Hopefully they can come up with a system that will allow everyone to alternate each year from front row to back. The old subject of ladies marching in the Parade again surfaced. Currently five lady Presidents can march in the Parade. Ready for a leisurely quarter mile, Dottie?.

It really is amazing how the Games at Grandfather prove to be so much fun for me in so many different ways. "The play's the same, but indeed the actors are different". Well maybe the program's the same but it is played out in so many different and interesting ways. Shut up, your starting to blether!!!.

As always it was a pleasure and a privilege to host the TCA tent at Grandfather.

Kind Regards

  
John Turnbull

WE WISH A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO BOB FOSTER - With all the effort Bob has been expending on TCA these past few months, we hope that we were not a part of what put him into the hospital recently. He assured me that it was pleasureable work. At last report he was feeling much better and looking forward to attending the Stone Mtn. Games. Our prayers for a speedy recovery and continued good health.

IS IT LEGIT OR A RIP-OFF????

This past spring many of our members received a mailing from The Turnbull Family News, Denver, Colorado. On June 11, 1989 a letter was mailed to the given address inquiring about their operation with an offer to exchange newsletters with them. To-date there has been no reply. If any of our members have subscribed to this newsletter we would appreciate your comments.

#### ADDRESS FOR TARTAN ITEMS

It has been suggested that the address for Tartan items be printed from time to time. There are three Tartans, Dress, Hunting and Ancient Hunting in several different weights and widths. Sample swatches, measurement chart and list of Tartan items may be obtained from: PETER ANDERSON OF SCOTLAND, Nether Mill, Huddersfield Street, Galashiels, Scotland TD1 3BA. When visiting Scotland you are welcome to view the museum at the mill and purchase direct from their show-room.

#### IT'S A SMALL WORLD

Your Editor and her husband, Bill, were lounging around the swimming pool at the Lake Manyara Hotel, Tanzania, East Africa where we were admiring the awesome view overlooking the Great Rift Valley. The couple sitting next to us joined us in exchanging remarks about the beauty of the view and the wonderful animals we had just seen. They were from Aberdeen, Scotland. During the course of the conversation they were surprised to learn that we had visited Scotland and had family there. After the normal exchange of who, what, where and when they mentioned that just before they left home they had heard Myra Turnbull, Hawick, on the Scottish radio. Myra was speaking about the Hawick Common Riding. They were very impressed with her.

# WHIT A TOPPER

"Eh, man, whit a topper," wis whit John wad often say  
On castin' his weel-practised een ow'r special bull or quey,  
Frae weet nose end ow'r croon an' top tae the lang hair o' its tail,  
He'd gie his honest judgement, an' I niver kent it fail.

For he wis raised through lang, hard hoors o' sweet an' muscle strained,  
His calloused hands had firmly held the tools wi' which he trained.  
Nae saft-sprung sate, nor cosy cab, nor reek frae engine hot,  
But livin' pooer o' his broad back or horse, were auld John's lot.

Noo, loyalty's auld fashioned an' it's noticed when it's seen,  
In auld John's day ye only noticed those that hadna been.  
He flitted aince he marrit an' he bade there till the term  
O' his lang, honest workin' life that he gied tae the ferm.

Syne he retired an' flitted aince again amang strange folk,  
But strangers only for awhile wha quickly welcome spcke,  
For John made freens much quicker than it taks' tae write this doon,  
An' no' jist in the country, jist as mony in the toon.

Aye, we a' miss auld John, ye ken, his cheery word, his smile.  
The bairns a' miss their wise, auld freen wha always spoke awhile.  
Whaever passes judgement as afore the Gates he'll stan',  
There only is ae answer - "Whit a Topper o' a man."

John Clark was born in Aberdeenshire, in the north-east of Scotland and, as a young married man, moved to Dumfriesshire, in the south-west of the country, where he eventually became grieve (foreman) on the farm where he worked until he retired. He was one of nature's gentlemen and a great judge of cattle. The highest accolade he could give an animal was "whit a topper" - in other words "one of the best there is."

To the late John Clark, one time grieve at Gilchristland, Dumfreisshire, and others like him.

This poem was written and sent to us by a friend of the Clan, Athol Farquharson, Jedburgh, Scotland. He also sent along a translation of some of the Scots words:

whit - what	een - eyes	quey - heifer	weet - wet
croon - crown	tap - top or back of an animal	hoors - hours	sweet - sweat
sate - seat	reek - smoke	pooer - power	noo - now
flitted - moved house	aince - once	freen - friend	term - end of period
gied - gave	syne - then		of employment - traditional
doon - down			term days were 28th May and 28th November when farm workers would move house if they were leaving one employer for another.

It is County Fair and State Fair time. Many of you will attend Fair's in your area and will see many a fine farm animal 'whit a topper.'