

BARONY OF BEDRULE RETURNS TO TURNBULLS

On July 25th 2006, Wally Turnbull, President of the Turnbull Clan Association became the Baron of Bedrule. This Barony which is one of the earliest in Scotland's history is of particular importance to the Turnbull Clan.

In the early medieval period, under the Scottish feudal system, the titles of Earl and Baron were the only titles of nobility. Unlike other personal titles in Scotland, earldoms and baronies were based territorial positions, meaning they were attached to an area of land designated an earldom or barony by the King.

Barons had a duty to the King and a right to attend the King's Court. This court gradually evolved into Parliament. As feudal superiors, barons also had an obligation to hold courts. These courts were a form of parliament of the barony. The courts mirrored the King's Court but at a lower level in the feudal hierarchy. They were limited to geography (the area of the barony) and in judicial function. The baron courts main concern was with day to day administration including boundary disputes between neighbors, compensation for cattle damage, repairing the barony mill, and such.

The baron's primary function was to administer justice within the barony, insuring that the courts were held and proper procedure followed. It was the private administration of a part of public justice and the baron retained the fines to recompense him for the costs of administration.

Feudal earls and barons retained the right to hold baronial courts and some residual rights of jurisdiction until the final abolition of the feudal system in 2004. Although rights of public jurisdiction were then abolished, it appears that barons can still hold private courts if they so wish.



The Barony of Bedrule borders the Rule River and the site of Fast Castle, an early Turnbull stronghold.



Wally Turnbull standing on the sight of Fast Castle adjoining the Barony of Bedrule.

Today there are fewer than 2000 baronies in Scotland. Most of these date from the 15th, 16th and 17th centuries. Prior to that time there were only about 400 including the Barony of Bedrule. (We are researching the history of the barony and if interesting information can be gathered it will appear in a future Bullseye.) The original boundaries of the barony included Fulton Tower, Bedrule Castle and Fast Castle and much of the area surrounding Bedrule. Fast Castle was an important part of the Turnbull Barony. Messages would often be sent between two points using fire and smoke. Bedrule Castle could not see Fatlips (Barnhill) Castle but there is a direct line of sight from Fast Castle to Fatlips. As Fast Castle was near Bedrule it served as a relay point.

The Right Honorable James Knight, Baron of Bedrule contacted Wally Turnbull as President of TCA. At that time, Baron Knight owned the property that formally was the Bedrule Mill and was living part time in Bedrule and part time on the Isle of Mull. He contacted Wally to share concerns about the deterioration of Fatlips, which continues to be a priority for TCA.

Later, when Baron Knight decided to move full time, to the Isle of Mull he again contacted Wally to discuss the Barony of Bedrule. He felt that as he would no longer be living in Bedrule it would be fitting that the title and barony belong to a descendant of the original clansmen. Wally agreed and acquired the barony property and accompanying title. The Barony of Bedrule has now returned to Turnbull history and will remain so, as it is passed down from one generation to the next.

From the President

by Wally Turnbull

It is interesting that we should be discussing hereditary titles and elections in this same issue of the Bullseye.

In many ways those topics reflect two different aspects of TCA itself. We are interested in learning about and preserving our heritage but we are also interested in working together in the present.



Three years ago, when we created the bylaws which govern TCA today no issue was more controversial than term limits for the President. As President, I pushed hard and successfully to limit the office to no more than two consecutive terms. Others felt that this was not necessary or even unwise but I believed that it was an important measure to prevent a modern version of a hereditary title within TCA.

So you ask yourself "What's wrong with hereditary titles and if so why did Wally become the Baron of Bedrule?" Unless we all participate in running TCA it will become the organization of a few. I love democracy - *by the members for the members*. TCA is stronger and we each benefit more from our mutual participation.

Unlike the office of President which is for the present, the Barony of Bedrule is a link to our heritage. I would not have given a second's thought to any barony other than Bedrule. The title is not important. That title is important. Bedrule is ground zero for the Turnbells and that title should be held by a Turnbull. I am honored to be the one.

At most, I have one more three year term as your TCA President and a lot of dreams. I won't be able to do most of what I would like to do but we can. Now, it is time for elections. Nominate, run, participate, vote. You can't have democracy *for the people* without the *by the people* part. Together we can.

BULLSEYE - A Turnbull Clan Publication

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Betty Turnbull, Editor • Janet Turnbull Schwierking, Associate Editor
Kim Trimble, Contributing Writer

For all inquiries please contact editor@turnbullclan.com.

Turnbull Clan Association

Officers: Wally Turnbull, President • Brian Turnbull, Vice-President
Janet Turnbull Schwierking, Secretary • John G. Turnbull, Treasurer

Trustees: Keith Turnbull, Lee Turnbull, Corey Turnbull, Bill Trimble, Sarah Turnbull Snow, Dana Hume Turnbull Hoyer, George B. Turnbull, Brian P. Turnbull, Mark A. Turnbull, Sandy Turnbull

Founders: John Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA

Meet the Family

Corey Turnbull grew up in Elgin, Ontario. His interest in the Turnbull clan began with listening to stories that his grandfather, Gordon Turnbull, told. As the internet was first gaining popularity, he remembers searching for things Turnbull and not finding much. He immediately started a website and launched the Turnbull Email family, which quickly grew worldwide. He says that this offered the opportunity to meet many wonderful people like Wally, John G., Dottie Burke, Claude and Sarah Snow, Janet, Dana Hume – and the list goes on. Oh – he says and don't forget our crazy cousin Aidan in the UK!



Corey with wife, Dianne, and daughters (left to right), Keira, Alina, and Shona vacationing in New Foundland.

Corey is married with three beautiful daughters; Shona 6, Alina 4, and Keira 18 months. He met his wife, Dianne while working for a company called 3M. Dianne grew up in Westchester County, New York and moved to Canada when she was 16. Corey wore his Turnbull dress kilt for their wedding and a piper played as Dianne walked down the aisle. Corey says, "Man was it loud, but wonderful!"

Presently Corey is a warehouse branch manager for a logistics company. His hobbies include Martial Arts. He currently has a Brown Belt in Goju Ryu and a Yellow Sash in Kung Fu.

Corey shares this message with his TCA family members, "I love our history, it's colorful and alive and I have always been proud to be a Turnbull. We have a wonderful track record of accomplishments, yet we tend to blend into the background and not take notice of ourselves. My dream was to link us all when I had the Turnbull email family and believe it or not, there were actually some people that linked up across the world. People should reach out to relatives for information and record it then share that. As I used to say, "You never know who might be reading it."

Election Year - Nominations Requested

The end of 2006 marks the end of the three year term of TCA's officers. It is time to nominate candidates to fill the offices of President, Vice-President, Membership Secretary and Treasurer. Following is an excerpt from the TCA bylaws:

Any member in good standing may nominate one or more to be an officer of TCA.

The elected terms of the officers shall be for three years beginning on January first following regular elections.

A three-member committee appointed by the Board of Directors will table a proposed slate of candidates for officers for the coming three-year term. If sufficient nominations are not provided by the membership at large to provide the required slate then, as members themselves, the officers may nominate individuals to complete the slate.

The proposed slate of officers shall be presented to the membership by the Secretary in writing either by letter or in the TCA newsletter for election by mail in ballots, to be tallied before the end of the month of November preceding the year in which office is to commence.

The officers shall be elected by a simple majority of voting members who have paid their dues as of the date of the election.

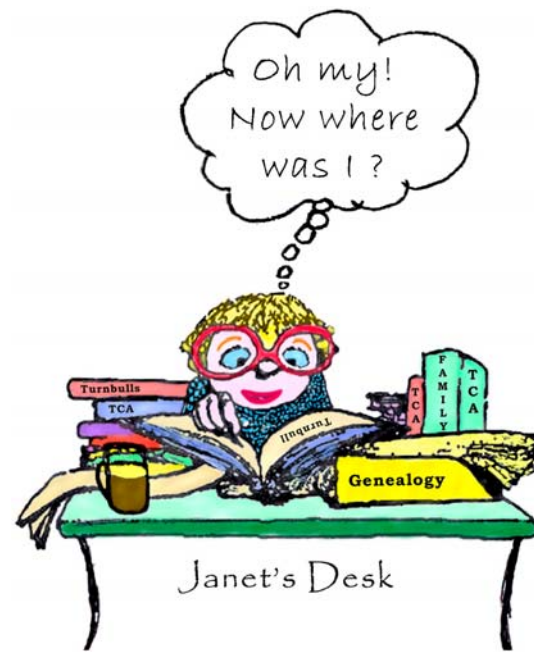
Voted ballots shall be submitted to the Secretary, who will tabulate the results. The Secretary shall send the ballots and tabulated results to the Treasurer for verification.

The officers chosen by election shall be presented by the Secretary in writing either by letter or in the TCA newsletter to the membership before the end of the year preceding the commencement of the new terms in office.

Current officers of TCA are Wally Turnbull, President; Brian Turnbull, Vice-President, Janet Schwierking, Membership Secretary; John G. Turnbull, Treasurer. After many years of faithful service to TCA, John has asked to take a break from elected office. His wishes are being honored, though he will be missed.

Included with this issue is a ballot for your use in nominating officer candidates. Already nominated are Wally Turnbull, Brian Turnbull and Janet Schwierking for the same positions they are holding now. Additional nominations are being accepted, as well as nominations for treasurer. Nominations must be received by mail or email before October 31, 2006. Ballots will be included in the November Bullseye.

A Reminder From Janet



Dues Renewal Time – It's not too soon to be thinking about renewing your membership

Dues are \$20.00 per year for the primary membership and \$10.00 for spouse or child. Please note that those of you planning on going on the 2007 AGM trip to Scotland do not have to renew as your renewal dues will be included as part of the trip. (Stay tuned for exciting trip details.) Also, a new policy is being extended to those who host a TCA tent during the year. The policy reads as follows "A TCA member who hosts a tent during the year prior to the renewal year will have the next year's dues waived for one primary member." This means that if you have hosted or will host a tent in 2006, your 2007 membership is automatically renewed.

Please do note that this is for one primary member and the dues of a spouse or child will need to be renewed at the rate of \$10.00 each. This has been done to show the appreciation of TCA for the extra dedication, expense and hard work involved in representing the Turnbull Clan at games.

In order to receive your membership renewal please let Janet (Jschwkw@aol.com) know what games you have hosted or will host in 2006.

Renewal of your TCA dues may be done by check made out to Turnbull Clan Association (or TCA) – please do not make it out to an individual and mailed to:

Janet Schwierking, TCA
2020 Schuettig Rd.
Poteet, TX 78065-4120 USA

Or pay online – go to www.turnbullclan.com and click to enter the site and then click on the yellow box that says *Renew or Join 2007*.

NH Games Return to Loon Mountain

The New Hampshire Highland Games are one of the largest Scottish Games in North America. The Games have often attracted over 20,000 spectators in a single day. This year the games returned from the Concord area to their original home in Loon Mountain.

Mark Turnbull reports on this year's games. "I set up the tent on Thursday, Sept. 21. Opening day, Friday, we met many old friends and received many compliments on our presentation.



Mark (above center with clear poncho) proudly carries Turnbull banner in opening ceremonies.

Edith & Lois Fay from Massachusetts and their sister Alice Foy from Maine arrived and spent all day Saturday enjoying the Games and helping with the tent. On Saturday (weather unfortunately rainy and drizzly), I proudly carried our local Turnbull Tartan flag with its many ribbons & pennants in the Clan Parade, with about 50 other Clans & Scottish Societies.

After the Parade (of course the heavier rain stopped) the crowds grew. We signed up 14 new & renewed members.

One of our new members, Emily Putney, appears to be a photographic genius and took many pictures.

Approximately 900 people attended the Kirkin' of the Tartans Sunday morning. When you hear that many people singing Amazing Grace,



New member Emily Putney poses with Mark in front of Turnbull tent.



Bad weather doesn't stop crowds from returning to Loon Mountain for the annual Highland Games.

accompanied by a Piper, it is truly an experience you'll never forget.

Unfortunately, between 1:00 PM and 2:00 PM, hurricane winds, rain, and a couple of lightning strikes led the Games



Award winning Steve Turnbull and his Vermont band participated in the weekend events and competition.

Committee to close Clan Village. At 2:15 PM, the sun was shining and the breeze was gentle enough to keep the flags flying. A dozen Clan hosts kept their tents open, but finally gave in. I was last man standing at 3:30 when I closed the tent. We are firmly re-established at Loon Mountain. I will probably be back on the Board of the New Hampshire St. Andrew's Society. Until next year, Yours Aye, Mark



Dance competitions were among the many events entertaining visitors. (Special thanks to Emily Putney for the photos and welcome to TCA!)

UPCOMING GAMES & EVENTS

USA Games – Attend one in your area!

**** Look for the Turnbull tent!**

October 1, New Jersey Scottish Heritage Festival, Holmdel, NJ

****October 6-7**, St Louis Scottish Games, St Louis, MO

October 6-8, Tennessee Highland Games, Murfreesboro, TN

October 8, Scotland's Highland Festival, Scotland, CT

October 14, Radford Highlanders Festival, Radford, VA

October 14-15, Bedford Celtic Heritage Festival, Bedford, TX

October 14-15, Rio Rancho Highland Games, Rio Rancho, NM

October 21-22, Amarillo Celtic Festival, Amarillo, TX

October 21-22, Stone Mountain Highland Games, Atlanta, GA

October 27-29, Celtic Heritage Festival, Madisonville, LA

Australia and Canada– Attend one in your area!

October 6-14, Celtic Colours International Festival, Cape Breton, NS, Canada

October 14-15, Australian Federation Tattoo, NSW, Australia

October 14, Wollongong Highland Games & Pipe Band Competition, Dapto, NSW, Australia

October 22, Glenbarr Highland Gathering, South Australia

October 29, Castle Hill Highland Games, NSW, Australia



Welcome Chris Tromble Nelson and husband Tim to the Turnbull Clan Tent family! Tim introduced Chris to Highland Games when they were dating. (see next month's Meet the Family for the whole story!) Chris and Tim set up a Turnbull Tent at the first Celtic and Clashes of the Clan in Jamestown, NY. The hosting band was the 96th Highlanders Pipe and Drums. The clans were led onto the field by piper, Beth Goldsmith, with each clan being recognized. Chris says it was a great experience, meeting lots of fun people with common interests. She wants to thank Janet Schwierking and Keith Turnbull for their help and input! They will be back for the Aug. 25, 2007 games.



SURPRISE!!!! Members Elizabeth Turnbull and husband Roberto Copa-Matos planned and executed a perfect surprise birthday party for mom, Betty! The surprise included getting her brothers, Rhet (California) and Andrew (Indiana) to fly in for the event! (Thanks to all of you, Mom!)

2007 AGM SCOTLAND UPDATE

Many of you have been following the news of the 2007 AGM to be held in the Borders of Scotland next year, commemorating TCA's 30th anniversary. Not only will this be a return to the roots of TCA, but it will be a time to visit the original Turnbull roots. This is where it all started.

Myra Turnbull, founder John Turnbull's widow and George Turnbull the head of TCA Scotland are working closely with TCA to help make this a very memorable experience for all.



Myra and Betty work together in Hawick on next year's itinerary.

The trip is going to be a once in a lifetime experience – with many things happening just for us. Among the many things planned, included are visits to Glasgow University, founded by Bishop Turnbull, Minto, the home of Fatlips Castle, Stirling Castle, where William Rule saved the King and of course, Bedrule, home of the first Turnbells, barony and beginnings. The trip dates are June 10 – 17, 2007. (The first meeting is the evening of the 10th; depending on your departure country you may be departing on June 9.) Due to hotel space we are limited in the size of the group. If you are interested in going and have not already added your name to the list it's not too early. Those who have expressed an interest already will be given priority if space becomes a problem. Email editor@turnbulldclan.com or call Betty Turnbull 919-361-5041. Stayed tuned for more information!



Above, member David Turnbull, Fort Worth, TX and his sister Jan Turnbull Brantingham pose in front of the Bull Ring Restaurant in Sante Fe, New Mexico. They were there for a mini Turnbull reunion which included another sister, Carolyn White of Palo Alto, CA. Jan is from Litchfield Park, AZ.

TCA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

TCA extends a big welcome to new members. We are happy you are a part of our family. We encourage you to let us know about happenings and activities in your lives. We welcome suggestions, Turnbull related articles and participation. Welcome to: Sarah Williams, Genevieve Turnbull, Kenneth M. Turnbull, Christine Nelson, Richele Smith, Dennis G. Turnbull, Jeff Goody, Ellen Turnbull Brown, Emily Putney and Sabina Donnoley.

*Happy
Birthday
to*



Cara Cox, Gordon W. Turnbull, James Olson, Carolyn Turnbull, Kathleen Turnbull, Elaine Weller, Glen McConkey, Lynette Neibert, Ann Turnbull, Wilma Ledgerwood, John Gibson III, Helen Goody, Olive Turnbull, Agnes Turnbull Corns, Roland Bonewitz, Janine Lewis-Newby, Thomas Turnbull IV, William C. Turnbull, John Rodney Turnbull

Best of Borders Specializes in Border Clan Products

Celtic and Scottish products are available from numerous internet sites and stores. A new internet store specializes in products and gift items either made in the Borders or with a link to a Border Clan or family.

An objective of Best of the Borders is to help maintain the heritage of the beautiful border region. Their products include Scottish silver and clan tartan accessories, cashmere and knitwear, and Celtic jewelry. They also have specialty gift items for weddings, births and Christenings.

Best of Borders supports the work of the Borders Forest Trust (BFT). BFT is an environmental charity established in 1996 to develop and manage ambitious habitat restoration and community woodland projects and to reverse the decline of woodlands and wild places in the Scottish Borders.



Celtic jewelry offerings include this handmade brooch, whose design is based upon the symbol for the sun.



This wooden coaster set is one of many examples of products supporting the Borders Forest Trust.

Over the years the Trust has acted as a platform to bring together groups and individuals interested in the conservation and expansion of native woodlands to work collectively towards fulfilling the vision of the restoration of native woodland heritage to the South of Scotland. Their vision is for the South of Scotland to be a place where a rich network of native woodlands and wild places flourish, cared for by local communities.

Best of Borders have featured a range of products, made from wood grown in sustainable managed woods in the Scottish Borders. In purchasing these products, one is helping the valuable work of the BFT.

The internet store is operated by Catriona Duke of Jedburgh. They ship worldwide. To see all of the many products, including those supporting the BFT, log onto www.bestofborders.com.

(The information in this article was supplied by Best of Borders.)

Turnbull Clan Association 2006 Elections Candidate Nominations

President _____

Information about the candidate: _____

Vice President _____

Information about the candidate: _____

Membership Secretary _____

Information about the candidate: _____

Treasurer _____

Information about the candidate: _____

Email your nominations to Janet Schwierking at Jschwk@aol.com

Or mail to: Janet Schwierking

2020 Schuetting Rd.

Poteet, TX 78065-4120 USA