

CATCHING UP IN THE HOMELAND NEWS FROM SCOTLAND

Last month, Turnbull Clan Honorary Chief Wally Turnbull and his wife, Betty, visited the Borders in Scotland and caught up with many people and friends of Turnbull Clan.

A meeting with George Turnbull, President of Turnbull Clan Scotland, was very productive. George reported that lights have been installed on the *Turning of the Bull* Monument. This has been well received by local residents.

Wally and George also discussed some possible options for the July 2014 AGM to be held in Scotland in conjunction with the International Gathering in Stirling. (Stay tuned to the Bullseye for updates as they develop.)

Gemma (honorary Turnbull) Bernard, whose life passion is preserving the Borders history, particularly the saving of Fatlips Castle, reports that great progress is being made on the restoration efforts. Gemma was happy to report that the roof has been completed and shingles are in place. Repairs to the parapet is next. Special stonecutters have been brought in to cut stone and restore the parapet to its original form.

The Turnbull Cairn project is very much alive and on track. (Issue 5, 2011). Adele Richardson, a longtime Turnbull neighbor and friend in Bedrule, met up with us for coffee in Denholm. She was excited to hear about the Cairn project and is eager to see it come to form.

Gemma is also helping locate local stone for building the Turnbull Cairn, a project begun by Norman Turnbull, Turnbull Clan High Schenachie. Barrie Turnbull, Myra's son, is offering his services to provide the needed archi-

Fatlips Castle shingles are in place. Below: Inside Fatlips: Light shining in from a window only is a very good thing!



Above: Myra Turnbull, co-founder of TCA, enjoys catching up with Wally Turnbull at her home in Hawick.

techtural design for the Border Council.

Brian and Ann Turnbull of Kelso joined Wally and Betty for dinner. Brian has been active in many Turnbull events and will be helping with communications and social networking for TCA.

No visit to Hawick is complete without seeing Myra Turnbull, co-founder of TCA with husband John F. Turnbull. Myra had much to report. Her grandson, Ross Turnbull Irvine, married his long time sweetheart, Sharon Rees in July. (photos to come next issue)

Ross, the owner and proprietor of Turnbolls at the base of High Street, Hawick, has reestablished Turnbolls as a prominent business in Hawick. (Ross's grandfather and great-grandfather ran the family grocery, wine and whisky shop on High Street, Hawick) Irvine House, two doors from Turnbolls, is the product of Debbie Turnbull Irvine, (continued on page 3)

From the President

by Rhet Turnbull

In the last Bullseye I wrote about my visit to the TCA Annual General Meeting at the Pacific Northwest Scottish Highland Games in Enumclaw, Washington. To those of us who went, it was obvious that the Games and the AGM were a huge success. What might not have been as obvious was the amount of hard work that went into organizing the AGM and hosting the Turnbull Tent at the Games. This year's AGM was a success due to the efforts of Bill and Pat Trimble, two of TCA's dedicated tent hosts. As a military officer, I know that my success often stands on the efforts of a few good sergeants who serve selflessly, often without thanks. Our tent hosts are like those sergeants and any success TCA has is thanks to them. Each year, around the USA and the world, our selfless tent hosts visit various Highland Games and set up their tents all for the purpose of telling other Turnbells about our family heritage and our great Turnbull Clan Association.



Mark Turnbull is another of our dedicated TCA "sergeants" and tent hosts. I had the privilege of visiting Mark Turnbull's Tent at the New Hampshire Highland Games at Loon Mountain in 2010. This year, for the first time in decades, Mark wasn't able to host the tent and he called for reinforcements. TCA member Karen Torrey answered the call and offered to run the Turnbull Tent this year. As you will read about in these pages, wow, did Karen deliver! She not only made sure Turnbells continued to be represented at Loon Mountain, but she also brought home the coveted "Best Clan Tent" trophy! Without dedicated members like Bill, Pat, Mark, Karen, and so many others, our organization would not be able to accomplish much at all.

As our Games season draws to a close, at least here in the USA, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to all the tent hosts and the other dedicated "sergeants" who make TCA what it is. It is indeed an honor to serve Turnbells worldwide with such devoted and hard working members.

BULLSEYE

The Bullseye, a Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide (TCA) newsletter is published six times a year at: 5216 Tahoe Dr. Durham, NC 27713 U.S.A.

Editor: Betty Turnbull editor@turnbullclan.com, Features Editor: Kim Trimble. International News Editor: Kenneth Turnbull, Children's Editor: Sarah Turnbull

Turnbull Clan Association Worldwide

www.turnbullclan.com

Officers: Rhet Turnbull, President • William Trimble, Vice-President • Brian Turnbull, Treasurer • Christine Nelson, Secretary
Founders: John F. Turnbull, Scotland • Dorothy Berk, USA

Nominations

This is an election year for TCA. Next month members will be asked to vote for President, Secretary, Treasurer, and up to six Vice Presidents. Nominations received to date are below. If you would like to nominate someone or serve yourself, please send your nomination, contact information, and the office running for to secretary@turnbullclan.com by October 25.

President:

Wally Turnbull, USA: Served as President for two terms ending in 2009. Turnbull Clan Association Honorary Clan Chief.

Vice President of Social Media:

Brian Turnbull, SCOTLAND: Served with Turnbull Clan Scotland, sponsored Turnbull Clan fund-raising events, lives in Kelso, Scotland

Vice President of Events:

Bill Trimble, USA: Served as TCA treasurer, currently TCA tent host.

Vice President of International News:

Kenneth Turnbull, AUSTRALIA: Currently International News Editor, Bullseye.

Vice President - Archivist:

Mark A. Turnbull, USA: Long time TCA tent host.

Vice President of Communications:

Betty Turnbull, USA: Bullseye Editor since 2007.

Treasurer:

Brian Turnbull, CANADA: Currently serving as Treasurer and webmaster, former Vice President TCA

Secretary:

Chris Nelson, USA: Currently serving as Secretary and TCA tent host.

La Breith Sona! Happy Birthday! September/October



Mavis Lockwood, Douglas G. Turnbull, Theodore Evernghim Blake II, Catharine Turnbull McKenty, Margaret Trimble, Keith E. Turnbull, Betty Jane Turnbull, Tamara Louise Turnbull, Gordon Wells Turnbull Jr., Carolyn Maxwell Turnbull, Suasn M. Benggston, John Rodney Turnbull, Graham Paul Turnbull, Wilma Turnbull Ledgerwood, Sandra P. Hansen, Maxwell Gordon Day, Bly Edward Schwierking Jr, Roland (Derick) Bonewitz

SCOTLAND UPDATE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)



Brian Turnbull, Betty Turnbull, Ann Turnbull and Wally Turnbull talk about social media ideas for TCA over dinner at the Townhouse (Melrose).



Above: Turnbolls of Hawick, owned by Ross Turnbull Irvine. Left: Wally and Betty Turnbull catch up with Adele Richardson (Bedrule) in Denholm.



Right: Wally gets reacquainted with The Turning of the Bull monument in Hawick. TCA Scotland has installed lights around the base for nighttime display.



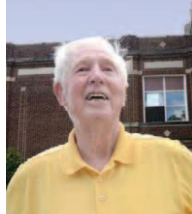
Left: Gemma Bernard, Alistair Scot give Wally the latest news of Fatlips restoration and discuss the Cairn Project.

TOTALLY TURNBULL

Like
TotallyTurnbull
on facebook
and keep up
with the latest
additions.

Check out TotallyTurnbull.com for your personalized Turnbull products. Household items to Turnbull Tartan clothing. It's not too early to start planning for those special Christmas gifts. Remember tartan items take 6-8 weeks.

www.totallyturnbull.com

USA - Old School 'mothballed'

Bruce Turnbull returns to the site of the former Northville High School, which he graduated from in

1937 with 50 other students. Currently called Old Village School, the school will remain unoccupied for a year while district officials decide its future use. The Old Village School was officially designated as "mothballed" Change is inevitable and it's nothing new for Old Village, which has served many functions since it was built in 1916.

UK - A legacy for a gentle man

A sponsored walk has been organised in memory of a popular Croxley Green man who died from cancer. He was exposed

to asbestos as a boy. Keith Turnbull, of Frankland Road, died on 1st February from mesothelioma, a form of lung cancer, which is caused by exposure to fibres of the fire retardant asbestos. Judith Turnbull said: "Keith loved long distance walking so it encompasses his love of open spaces, railways including the Ebury Way, the Aquadrome and the canal as he walked from Little Venice to Braunston."

New Zealand - In the hot seat

Shortland Street's Roz Turnbull is in the hot seat. Turnbull, who played biker

chick Cat Gibson on the soap, has returned to her first love to star in cabaret show The Red Chair. Along with performers Will Barling, former Shortland Street actor Andrew Laing and Melissa Nordhaus, Roz Turnbull sings and dances her way through music from the likes of Noel Coward to Boy George.



by Kenneth Turnbull - International News Editor

Australia - Fatal Shore author Robert Hughes Dies

Noted Australian art critic and historian, Robert Hughes, has died in New York after a battle with illness. He was 74. "He will be greatly missed by his wife ... and his family in Australia, including his niece Lucy Hughes Turnbull AO and her husband the Honourable Malcolm Turnbull MP," the statement said. "Bob was a true public intellectual. He was elitist when it came to evaluating art, but he was absolutely egalitarian when it came to communicating why certain works mattered." Hughes wrote 'The Art of Australia', a comprehensive review of 'Australian painting from settlement to the 1960s', which is considered an important work. His 'Shock of the New', his 1980 television series and book, has been hailed as the most readable and provocative account of the development of modern art ever written.

**Canada - Royal Canadian Legion celebrated their 85th**

The Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 20 in Digby, celebrated their 85th anniversary in July with a dinner, a dance and a cake. As well, Comrade Archer Turnbull, who received his 55-year Legion service bar, cut the anniversary cake at the anniversary party of the Digby Legion, Branch. His father, Dr. Guy Victor Turnbull was a charter member and the first President of Branch 20.

Scotland - Parsley, sage, rosemary and Penny

Pittenween woman, Penny Turnbull has swapped the hot seat of a global company for the hot house of her own business. After 14 years handling crisis management for an international hotel chain, Penny has taken the plunge to pursue her passion for herbs and created The Little Herb Farm in the East Neuk town. Penny came to Pittenweem in 2005 when American husband Michael Smith joined the staff at St Andrews University. They had been living in the USA but decided they wanted their then 18-month-old daughter Olivia to be brought up in the UK. Herbs have always been Penny's passion – she even had a herb garden when she was a student – and she loves their combination of beauty and versatility.

**Canada - John Turnbull dies at 94**

Several weeks before his recent death at age 94, John Turnbull was accepting his 65-year pin from the Seaforth Lions Club at a barbecue at Lions Park. Raised on a farm near Walton, John Turnbull went to school to become a veterinarian since he had an older brother to take over the family farm. "He was a country vet and a darned good one," says daughter Christine Murray

**UK - Arab Women's Leadership**

Women scientists in the Middle East are hoping to rise to senior positions are being given a helping hand by two experts in global leadership competencies. Dr Liza Howe-Walsh and Dr Sarah Turnbull, from the University of Portsmouth Business School, have won funding to run workshops, which could help revolutionise women's career paths.

Papua New Guinea - Historic 'Turnbull Field' turned the tide of tyranny

There are few events in our history as important but as little known as those that took place with the battle at Turnbull Field 70 years ago this September. More and more Australians know the story of Kokoda, but few know the story of Turnbull Field. They should, as this is the place where the charge of Japanese land forces across the Pacific was first stopped and pushed back. The stakes were just as high. The conditions were just as terrible and the heroes were just as real. Historian Peter Brune tells the story of a Japanese soldier yelling across airstrip in pretty good English: "It's no use, we're coming across." The reply from the Australian regimental sergeant major was: "Pig's arse you are." The Japanese never made it across Turnbull Field.

Issue 11

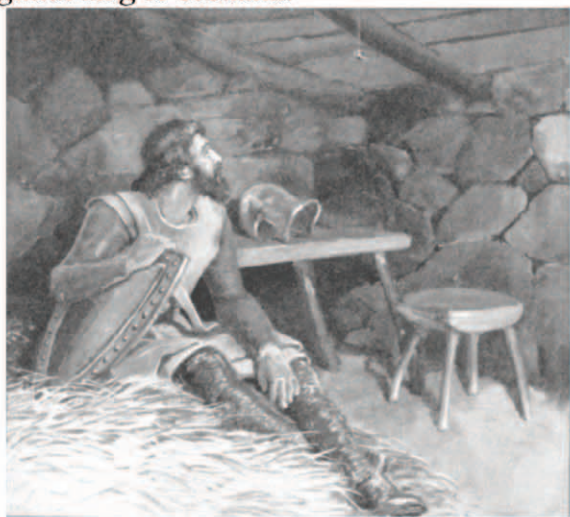
Bitty Bulls



Even the creepiest of crawlies can teach us important lessons.

Robert the Bruce

Legend has it that in the early days of Robert the Bruce's reign of Scotland he was fighting against the English and was driven to find safety in a cave. While hiding in the cave and feeling very discouraged he watched a tiny spider trying to make a web. Time after time the spider would fall and then slowly climb back up and start again. Finally after the seventh try the spider was able to attach her thread and weave a web. Robert the Bruce said to himself that he too had tried to defeat the English six times, but like the spider he must show **perseverance** and try again. He went on to lead his army to defeat the English at the Battle of Bannockburn and be recognized as the rightful king of Scotland.



What do spiders eat in Paris?

French flies!

Why did the spider buy a computer?

She wanted a website!

What did one spider say to another?

"Time's fun when you are having flies!"



PERSEVERANCE



noun: sticking with something even when hard
synonyms: diligence, determination, persistence

Has there been a time when you have had **perseverance**? Write to Bitty Bull and let us know how you have been a "stick-with-it" kid. All stories and pictures will appear in the next issue.

bittybulls@turnbullclan.com



Book Nook~ Books about Perseverance

Sally Jean, the Bicycle Queen by Cari Best (picture book, ages 4+)

Sally Jean is determined to earn enough money for a bigger bike and adventures follow. A fun book for young readers about perseverance.

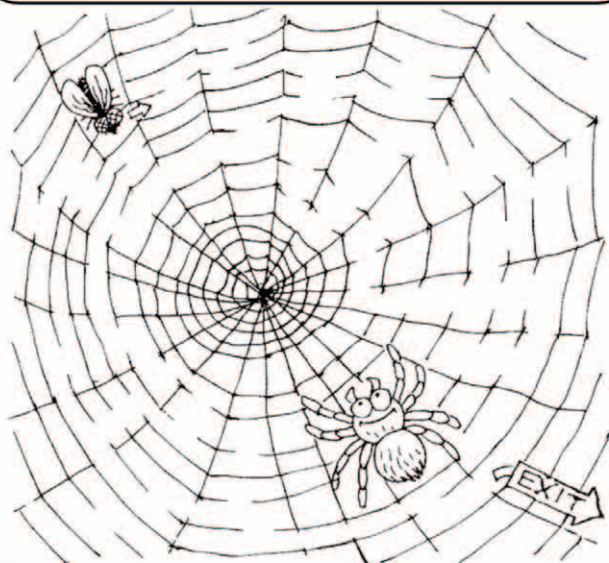
Wilma Unlimited by Kathleen Krull (44 pages, ages 4+)

Inspirational story of Wilma Rudolph who was born premature and was paralyzed from polio at the age of five. Through much determination she became the first US woman to win 3 Olympic gold medals.

The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth by Kathleen Krull (40 pages, ages 5+) The true story of boy genius Philo Farnsworth who developed the idea of moving pictures while plowing his potato field in the 1920's. Through much imagination and diligence he created the first television as a young adult.

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White (192 pages, ages 8+)

The kindly spider Charlotte is determined to save her barnyard pal Wilbur from becoming bacon. This is a classic story of friendship, selflessness, and determination.



EEEEK!

- Spiders are arachnids, not insects.
- They have eight legs while insects have six.
- Fried spiders taste like nuts.
- Some male spiders pluck their webs like a guitar to attract female spiders.
- Tarantulas are large and hairy spiders. The largest kind have been known to kill mice, lizards, and birds.

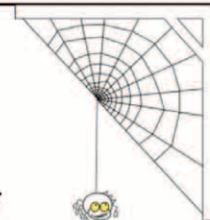
Spider Snacks



Ingredients:

- round crackers
- cream cheese, peanut butter, or almond butter
- stick pretzels
- raisins or chocolate chips

Spread cheese or nut butter on two crackers. Press four pretzels on each side into the spread. Close other cracker on top. Using same spread, press raisins or chocolate chips onto one cracker for the eyes. Enjoy a tasty treat!



Creepy Crafts

Spider Hat

- Black Craft Paper
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Tape or Glue
- Black Marker
- Red Paper
- Googly (wiggly) Craft Eyes or White Paper

1. Measure and cut a 3 inch wide strip of black paper that fits comfortably around your head.
2. Cut out eight 1 inch by 12 inch strips of black paper for the legs.
3. Fold the leg strips like an accordion to make them crinkle up.
4. Tape ends of head band together so that the band sits on your head.
5. Tape the legs to the top of the inside of the head band so the legs come out over the head band.
6. Cut out two little red triangles for fangs and glue or tape to bottom front of head band.
7. Glue six to eight googly eyes in a cluster above head band.



Vivian, Camden & Stirling Turnbull (age 9, 6, and 2) helped each other make spider hats. Vivian's spider is even wearing a black hair bow!

Send in a picture of your "creepy" creations to bittybulls@turnbullclan.com

Please include name & age

Itsy Bitsy Spider Went Up the Rain Spout

- Bendable drinking straw
- Plastic spider ring
- Tape
- Picture of a "spooky" house

1. Draw a vertical picture of a house large enough to fill a regular piece of paper.
2. Slide the spider ring onto the straw.
3. Tape the straw upside down onto the side of the house to be a rain spout.
4. Bend the straw at the bottom to stick out like rains spouts do on buildings.
5. Slide your spider up and down the spout as you sing "Itsy Bitsy Spider."



Itsy Bitsy spider climbed up the water spout,
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun and dried up all the rain
And the Itsy Bitsy spider went up the spout again!

Tribute to Turnbull's 'Baroness Betty' Wins Best Tent Award at New Hampshire's 37th Highland Games

by Karen Torrey, Tent Host

The largest Scottish cultural festival in the Northeast was held September 21-23 at Loon Mountain ski resort in Lincoln NH. After an auspicious beginning – Clan Johnstone informed me I was setting up our Turnbull Clan Association tent backwards – my husband Michael and I began an eventful and exciting weekend in the mountains that we have had the good fortune to hike in for decades. Many host tents commented on having the best weather in years with not a single day of rain or heavy wind gusts (for these mountains, anything less than 30 MPH is just a breeze).

This story began months ago when Mark Turnbull, who has hosted the tent for many years, asked if I would host the tent for the TCA with my family. With trepidation and even a little fear, I started assuming the honor and privilege from Mark, our Turnbull Clan Person of the Year in 2007. I acquired years of materials that Mark had collected and organized, cataloged and referenced.



The Turnbull tent won the coveted Best Clan Tent Award at the 2012 New Hampshire Highland Games, Loon Mountain.



Karen Torrey, with help from vertern tent host Mark Turnbull, hosts her first tent at the 2012 New Hampshire Highland Games.

Friday began with lots of support from adjacent clans and lots of "Where's Mark" questions.

My first thought, after surviving the tent setup (the equivalent of fitting ten pairs of shoes in one shoe box), was how I first heard the Turnbull story. I remembered my grandmother telling our story first, that my great uncle Arthur, while traveling in the Highlands was told that they didn't sell "the lowland plaids" there. As the full Turnbull story unfolded from memories and stories told by my elders, I saw a black and white copy of the Bullseye at a family reunion. My curiosity about my heritage is what took us to Scotland for the 30th clan anniversary and landed me in that TCA tent.

I was able to visit the cemetery in Rossie, NY, where Sara is buried along with her family. She traveled from Nova Scotia, down the St. Lawrence and set down roots in Rossie, only 20 minutes from my home town of Brasie Corners, NY. Every Sunday, we traveled to the Rossie Catholic Church for services. I am now blessed with many friendships among the clan. What a great life!

The connection was affirmed in 2007 when I travelled with fellow clan members to Scotland with my 4 sons, Carter, Cameron, Cassidy and Collin, and husband Mike to celebrate our heritage and 30 years in the books for the clan. The rest is history. Thus began my dilemma of how best to represent our clan at the Highland Games. How do you winnow down that awesome history and convey the story to others in a 10 by 10 foot tent?

My mind was drawn to the larger Turnbull story and how our little family story fit within the larger context. Having seen Betty Turnbull in her element in Scotland, I decided to center the exhibit around the idea of representing her 'in situ.' I took a photo from the back cover of Betty's book and enlarged it to 24" X 36" and set Betty's portrait in a chair for all to see. Around her, I arranged the tables with artifacts from many generations of Turnbulls passed down to me: a bible from 1875, inherited by my grandmother; dishes passed down to my Aunt Nancy from the Dibbles; an engraved Turnbull silver serving spoon from my great-grandmother. Of great interest was the gold bar that Norman Turnbull had viewed and thought representative of the 17th century that is kept in a chainmail purse also belonging to the Dibbles great-great grandmother. The Scots are known for their cheekiness. Acknowledging that the English Queen celebrated a 60th jubilee, I felt that our own Baroness needed equal billing. With the normal disregard for proper English etiquette, we held

(continued on page 8)

New Hampshire's 37th Highland Games

continued from page 7

our own Turnbull Tribute jubilee, dedicated to Betty Turnbull, who recently was honored with the John F Turnbull Lifetime Achievement Award. Along with Betty, we also honored TCA co-founder Myra Turnbull and Dorothy Turnbull Berk, founder of TCA USA. Betty's 3 books – *The Man Who Saved the King*, *Abigail and the Royal Thread* and *Isobel's New World* – were big hits. The proceeds of those sold were donated to the clan tent fund.

Clan tents are judged on information, presentation and educational content. I checked off the items in my head. Information – Mark Turnbull has collected so much information the challenge was to find the essential elements; Presentation – how could a Turnbull Tribute to Baroness Betty be anything less than a winner? Education was my primary challenge – being a visual person, I decided to try to show the Highlands and the Borders (I refuse to call our ancestral lands Lowlands!) landscape, using a table size tableau. A green throw covered a plastic mold of hills and valleys, representing the abundant visual squares of pristine land. A Scottish map towel, draped over the tableau, allowed me to place family photos from our 2007 trip – the Torreys at Stirling Castle, the Torreys at Bedrule Kirk, the Torreys at Hawick, the Torreys at Fatlips Castle and the Earl of Minto's land and buildings – on the towel map showing location and providing a personal connection to the landscape. Finally, I hung our coat of arms Turnbull Crest flag that traveled back from Scotland with us, and the "Man who Saved the King" poster from Hawick in our tent. I was ready to tell our story.

When children asked to have their passport stamped, I would tell them our story first, showing the visual representation, going to our Tribute to Betty, keeping a crown there to draw questions, then travel to the opposite side of the tent with literature and Bullseye newsletters and pictures of our 2 Border Collies –



Above:
Karen Torrey
marches in
the Clan
Parade and
Roll Call.
Left: A
tribute to
"Baroness
Betty" Turn-
bull also in-
cluded Myra
Turnbull
and Dorothy
Turnbull
Berk.



Dottie and Coby. Who can resist dog pictures? I showed them the picture of my son Collin holding a red falcon in Scotland, my great-grandfather's wedding picture when he wed Anna, and stones from our homeland in Bedrule.

Friday I opened our tent with trepidation, but family arrived from Canada, Dick and Johanne Turnbull, and then the fun began! The sun followed them and the Turnbull story was told over and over again. After traveling for hours to compete in the Celtic Highland Dance competition, Karla Turnbull visited the tent. Her dancing outfit was gorgeous!

Dick's sister and her husband, Pam Turnbull-Merrill and Bruce Merrill, stopped by the tent, travelling from Maine. We became fast friends when all piled into our car to be chauffeured to their parking spots.

Saturday was resplendent, with great fall weather, lots of new memberships, including some friends of Turnbolls, and Mark's arrival. It was such a joy to embrace him and watch so many clan hosts, guests and NHHG committee members catch up with Mark. His presence brought many (continued on page 9)



A display of literature, Bullseys, and more add to the information section.

New Hampshire's 37th Highland Games

continued from page 8

visitors to the tent, a constant flow passing through.

Mark and I carried the clan flag high, waving and unfurling in the wind, proudly proclaiming "Fortune Favors the Brave" at the Clan Parade and Roll Call. Mike covered the tent while we marched (thanks for all the hot coffee and hard labor, Mike).

We carried our flags to the unveiling of the Scottish Stone at Loon. Major contributors received the finest "Scottish water," a very fine water indeed. The Stone represents a meaningful and lasting tribute to the clans, volunteers, competitors and supporters of the NH Highland Games. In addition to the Stone itself, a Clan Plaque, a memorial, and a walkway are planned in the future to be part of the tribute.

The hardest part of the day came when Mark departed. I told him it is an honor and a privilege to be his cousin and to be the face of the Turnbull Clan at the games. He saluted me, and disappeared in a cloud of smoke. Not really, but it would have been pretty cool if he had!

Sunday's Kirkin was my solo and first walk for Clan Turnbull. The day was crisp and though many tears were shed during Kirkin, peace and light filled the clan attendees.

So what is your story? How did it begin? Start now – become a tent host. Learn, live, and tell our story. We were awarded the *Clan Tent of the Games* cup for best Clan tent. So much of what I presented came from Mark Turnbull's efforts over the years. I had all the information for education because of Mark, as well as the inspiration to do the best job I could. With that said, I proudly dedicate the 2012 *Clan Turnbull Tent Award* to Mark Turnbull. He made it what it is today.



Top: Karen created a landscape of the Highlands to the Borders that featured highlights from the TCA AGM trip of 2007. Above: Mark Turnbull stands ready to parade with the Turnbull flag.



Above: Dancer Karla Turnbull takes time out to visit the Turnbull Clan Tent and meet Karen Torrey, tent host. Right: Catherine Postier, Secretary of Clan Johnston and neighboring tent catches up with Mark Turnbull.



The Real McCoy, You Say?

With thanks to: *A Phrase a Week* by Robert Bové sent in by John G. Turnbull, New York

There are several sources that are suggested as being the origin of 'the real McCoy', for example:

McCoy is derived from Mackay, referring to Messrs. Mackay, Edinburgh, who made a brand of fine whisky from 1856 onwards that they promoted as 'the real MacKay' from 1870. The expression could have derived from the name of the branch of the MacKay family from Reay, Scotland, i.e. 'the Reay Mackay'.

After Kid McCoy (Norman Selby, 1872-1940), American welterweight boxing champion. The story goes, and there are various versions of it, that a drunk challenged Selby to prove that he was McCoy and not one of the many lesser boxers trading under the same name. After being knocked to the floor the drunk rose to admit that 'Yes, that's the real McCoy'.

Elijah McCoy, the Canadian inventor educated in Scotland, made a successful machine for lubricating engines that spawned many copies, all inferior to the original. He patented the design in 1872.

The list goes on to include several other versions but none is supported by any evidence and they carry little credibility. Given that there's no hard evidence, the favourite has to be the earliest example to be found in print. That's a close call, as many of the sources date back to the second half of the 19th century. The earliest known printed citation is from 1856, in the Scottish poem Deil's Hallowe'en:

"A drappie o' [drop of] the real McKay."

This clearly refers to the McKay (or MacKay) whisky. The 'real MacKay' expression occurs in Scottish newspapers

quite frequently in the 1860s and must have been in common use in Scotland at that date. There's no proof (no pun intended) that MacKay's whisky is the source of this phrase but we can say for sure that Elijah McCoy, Kid McCoy and the Hatfields and McCoys weren't involved in its coinage as their respective supposed involvements all come years after the expression was already widely used in print.

The 'Real McCoy' variant, which is essentially the same phrase, comes later and the earliest examples that I have found come from Canada. James S. Bond's novel *The Rise and Fall of the Union Club*, 1881, contains this:

By jingo! yes; so it will be. It's the 'real McCoy,' as Jim Hicks says. Nobody but a devil can find us there.

A December 1891 edition of the Canadian newspaper *The Winnipeg Free Press* also includes the expression. Given that Elijah McCoy and the phrase 'the real MacKay' both moved from Scotland to Canada, it is possible that the adaption from 'real MacKay' to 'real McCoy' was done by him or on his behalf, but the real 'real MacKay', like the 'real McHoy', is Scottish.

Dae ye ken? (Do you know?)

Fowk = people
Gallus = cheeky
Greet = weep

Turnbull Clan Association
5216 Tahoe Dr.
Durham, NC 27713

