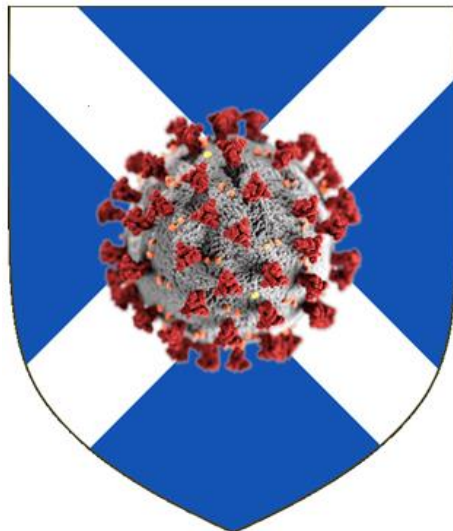


THE TEVIOTDALE HERALD

The Covid-19 Issue



Volume 12, Issue 2 - Summer 2020

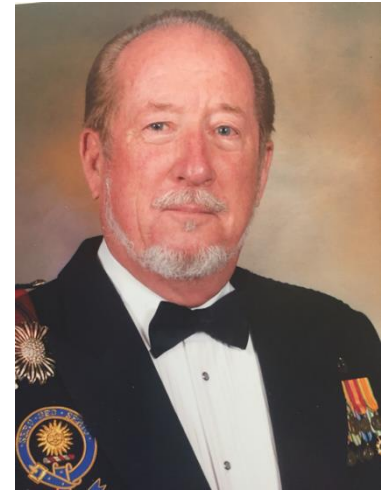
The Kerr/Carr Clan American Newsletter

CONTENTS

THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER	3
NEWS FROM LORD LOTHIAN	4
FROM THE CLAN’S SECRETARY	5
ENQUIRIES FROM THE RANKS	5
GENEALOGIST’S CORNER.....	6
WELCOME TO CLAN KERR/CARR’S NEW CONVENERs FOR IDAHO AND OKLAHOMA	6
ATTENDING HIGHLAND GAMES AS KERR CLAN SPONSOR?	7
ORIGIN OF THE KERR CLAN TARTAN	8
KERRS/CARRS VISITING SCOTLAND	9
THE WEBMASTER’S CORNER	10
FROM THE KERR’S SKUNK WORKS	11
Who Were The Kerr “Wardens Of The Marches”?.....	11
Kerr Castles In The Borderlands	12
Kerr/Carr Medal Of Honor Winners	12
Origin Of The Clans Motto And Crest	13
Clan Kerr Among America’s Clans	13
The Kerr Leadership In Scotland.....	13
For Kerr/Carr Members Doing Research On Their History	14
...And Even Deeper Into Kerr History.....	14
origins Of The Name Kerr	15
Who Was Patrick Carr?.....	15
Scotland’s Various Battles Fought With The British Between 875 Ad And 1600 ⁽¹⁾	16
Kerr’s Scottish Templars And The Crusades	167

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

For the last few months, it has been a time of reflection for many of us, and a review of things taken for granted for too long. Looking into our past appears to have been one that many of us have pursued during the Covid-19 pandemic. In the case of Clan Kerr/Carr, we have been inundated with new requests for information ... such as: “Tell me about our Clan”? “Where did I come from”? How can I get involved? Most amazing has been our membership growth with thirty-nine new members in the last five months.



On the flip side, there has not been even one single Scottish Highland Games in five months in the United States! While many of those have been postponed for later in 2020 or early 2021, these Games have been cancelled in a preponderance of caution. Due to the continuing uncertainty of the virus challenge, I would ask each of our members to follow the Games scheduled locally across the United States. We provided an earlier schedule for 2020, but have found it impossible to keep up with upcoming Games' developments. If Games occur where you live please attend, enjoy the day, and let us know how it went with an email. Photographs are always welcome for our next newsletter!

In the midst of Covid-19, we were also blessed with the entry of two new “Kerr/Carr Clan Conveners” for the states of Idaho and Oklahoma. We look forward to new clan activity there. My personal welcome to Ms. Jennie Stephens who will represent Clan Kerr/Carr at future Games in Oklahoma. A warm welcome also to Ian Scott Kerr who will initiate a Kerr/Carr tent this coming year at his local Games in Idaho. Our Clan Secretary has notified all of our Kerr/Carr members in and around Idaho and Oklahoma and of these new Conveners, and asked everyone to support the Games in both states. Stop by, say hello and enjoy your Scottish heritage with Jennie and Scott if you are in their area!



In closing, Clan Kerr has begun a quest for Scottish Kerrs/Carrs (and their septs) who participated in the Crusades in the Holy Land? Our Spring 2019 newsletter addressed this question raised by a member. Subsequent enquiries have opened up some fascinating materials. Clan Kerr/Carr has now decided to issue a special Fall 2020 Edition of *The Teviotdale Herald*, which will appear this October. It will explore three questions: When were the first Kerr/Carr Templars in Scotland's Lothian area? Did any of them participate in the Crusades? Were any Kerr/Carr Templars at Bannockburn in 1214?

Ceud Mile Failte Dhut! (*100,000 Welcomes to You!*)

Bob Miller

NEWS FROM LORD LOTHIAN

22 March 2020



Dear Bob and Margo,

Life here is very confused. This wretched virus is closing us all down step by step. Given my age ... I am classified in the most vulnerable category and slowly and annoyingly my life is being systematically circumscribed. I am now out of London and back in Scotland so that certain parts of my work have just been shut down. I am now effectively isolated and remain at Monteviot, which with the spring coming, is in many ways lovely. My family is cautiously moving in for the duration, which is good, but none of us know for how long this wretched infection is going to be in the ascendency. I fear some months more at least.

You ask some pertinent questions. I am no expert in the origins of family names. The Lord Lyon is probably the best source of information. I think, however, that in the Middle Ages some families took the name of their local community. "Ancrum" was quite a significant community in those times, with a resident Bishop in a palace and the custodianship of one of the main bridges into Scotland, the ruins of which have recently emerged and are currently being explored and evaluated. It is now a sleepy little village but many years ago the name could have carried quite a cachet. This amateur offering is, I fear, the best I can do.

Do let me know of any Kerrs who may be coming over in the summer. Ferniehirst Castle, the Kerr's original keep, should be open (*virus permitting*) and I can arrange a visit. (*My nephew*) Johnnie might even be in residence.

Let me know if Walter Kerr in Australia is well, and pass my salutations to him. Circumstances permitting, I still hope to sometime visit with him Down Under.

With all good wishes from the Scottish Borders and me.

(Lord) Michael Lothian



FROM THE CLAN'S SECRETARY

The first half of 2020 has been an unusual time for membership. During normal years our new members have come aboard through the scores of Highland Games across the United States, word of mouth and through our website. With virtually no Games so far in 2020, new membership applications have been pouring in from the internet, including our two new Kerr/Carr Clan Conveners for the States of Idaho and Oklahoma. Also reassuring is that our Kerr kin in distant lands are all well: those in Australia, Scotland, Spain and Canada.

ENQUIRIES FROM THE RANKS

1. **Heide Carr** of Virginia married to a Carr, and her mother is a Robertson. Heide is looking for anyone who might help connect these two names in history.
2. **Thomas Carr** of Sebring, Florida is struggling with his genealogy via social media sources and will keep us informed.
3. **Timothy Carr** of Maryland is struggling with his genealogy, which he finds is half English/Scottish and half Irish. We hope he will continue to keep us informed with his struggle in the mists of history.
4. **Mary Friesell** of Nebraska is struggling with her Kerr heritage on her mother's side. DNA indicates Kerr connections through her mother Helen Duffy, and another, through a Petit. We are helping where possible.
5. **Glenda Almand Johnson** is living in Florida. Her mother was a Karr and she is searching for more details.
6. **Finn Kerr** of Oklahoma is pursuing his Kerr family heritage into his past.
7. **Rena Knight** of Palo Pinto, Texas, has had ongoing discussions with the Kerr's contact at the traditional castle at Ferniehurst in the Borderlands. She owns her own travel agency and is planning a tour of Scotland in 2021, to (*hopefully*) include a tour/reception at the castle. Her work on this has continued throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, and as soon as Rena has dates and itinerary set in stone, we will include her tour particulars in this newsletter, with her permission of course. Her intended itinerary sounds very interesting and inclusive of many important sites throughout Scotland; so interesting in fact, that Bob & Margo Miller are thinking of going!
8. **Jeff Linton** of Dumfries, Virginia is researching his Kerr/Carr family background, and may find more information through other Lintons already members of Clan Kerr, living in the same area!
9. **Ray Massie** is from Washington State. His mother was Elizabeth Kerr 1930-1971, from Bellshill area and he is also looking for Kerr connections into his past.
10. **Deborah Carr Moazemi**. Her family is from New Brunswick in northeast Canada. Any Carrs up there who might remember Deborah Carr? (*not the actress variety of "Kerr"!*)
11. **Alice Patterson** is from Los Angeles, California. Her Kerrs were in the California Gold Rush, and she has other ancestors who stayed on the northeast coast of the United States. Alice is searching now for family genealogy in the storage of a Kerr relative.
12. **Ellen Woodrow** of Alameda, California, has traced back to Margaret Kerr born in 1743, who married Alexander Hughes somewhere in North Carolina. Ellen has a very interesting list of genesis history of that time. (*See "SKUNK WORKS" item later in the newsletter, "AND EVEN DEEPER IN KERR HISTORY" – page 14*).

GENEALOGIST'S CORNER

Doing research on your Kerr/Carr background? Among many good sites to visit, you may want to visit these:

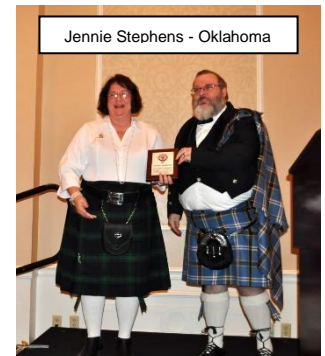
“My Heritage” Website: to explore your Kerr family name. At some point you may be asked to pay for information, and for those desperate for a quick avenue to results, it is sometimes easier to consider these alternatives. The “My Heritage” site lists 5,853,101 records for Kerr, along with 371,797 birth, marriage and death records, as well as 251,134 census and voter lists. Also available are data lists for the states of Arkansas, Missouri, Texas, Kentucky, and Ohio. Five individual Kerr family websites are also listed with member totals of 92, 36, 25, 21 and 42, respectively. And if you are interested in popular first names for Kerr here in the States, they are (*in alphabetical order*): Charles, David, George, James, Janet, Margaret, Mary, Robert, Sarah, Thomas and William.

“Kerr (Surnames)” lists hundreds of Kerrs worldwide (*alphabetically by their first name*) along with their date of birth and profession in the United States and around the world.

Our Clan Genealogist asks members to forward information about their famous forefathers for inclusion in future Clan KERR/CARR CLAN newsletters.

WELCOME TO CLAN KERR/CARR'S NEW CONVENERS FOR IDAHO AND OKLAHOMA

Jennie Stephens, of Yukon, Oklahoma, has volunteered to become Clan Kerr's new Convener in Oklahoma. Jennie hopes to kick-off her Kerr/Carr representation at the 2020 Iron Thistle Games in Oklahoma from October 16th to 18th, this year (*pandemic permitting*) and all future Games in Oklahoma and the surrounding area. We have connected Jennie with other clan members in Oklahoma and its neighboring states. If you are from Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, New Mexico or Texas, get in touch with Jennie at Pepejen41@hotmail.com to be included in any Games news from Jennie.



Ian Scott Kerr, has been appointed the new Kerr Clan Convener for the State of Idaho. Ian is excited to initiate the Kerr/Carr presence at the Treasure Valley Highland Games & Celtic Festival in Boise, Idaho, as well as the nearby 2020 Mountain Home Games later this year (*pandemic permitting*), and in many area Games in the years to come. Luckily for Ian, his mother, Laurie Mackenzie Kerr, has been the convener for the Mackenzies in Idaho for the past 20 years, and he couldn't have a better teacher! It was interesting to also find out that Ian has competed as one of our fantastic Scottish Games athletes in the past.

GOOD LUCK TO YOU BOTH!





ATTENDING HIGHLAND GAMES AS KERR CLAN SPONSOR?

It's worth looking into! You do not have to be involved in the Games as a Clan. Sponsorships are to help the Games, while giving you and your family added "perks" while in attendance. Most sponsor arrangements include a Sponsor's Reception or Dinner on the Friday evening before the Games. Most sponsorships include dinner and entertainment, along with reserved parking at the Games, Games tickets each day, and access to the Sponsors' Tent on the field with varied "refreshments." Some of the older Games, with decades experience, oft times require proof that a Clan or Society has standing. In this case, they will require proof that you are a Convener, Officer or Chief of a Clan or Society to sponsor a tent on the field. If interested in sponsoring a Kerr presence in your state or town, see:

Clan Kerr's Convener information on www.clankerr.org



ORIGIN OF THE KERR CLAN TARTAN

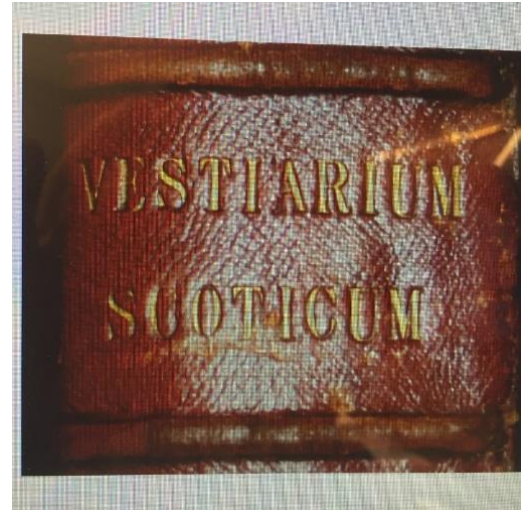


Ancient Tartan

In the last three thousand years, Scotland's Celts have made simple plaid designs with a few basic colors. This remained the case in Scotland until the late 18th Century. Prior to this most clansmen identified themselves by the jewelry and pins they wore.

Then ... in 1842, came William Tait of Edenborough, whose publication entitled, "Vestiarium Scoticum," aroused a furor in both Scotland and England.

Tait's book provided colored artwork for 75 Scottish Clan tartan designs: 36 for the Highland Clans, 30 in the Lowlands, and 9 in the Borderlands. Where had Tait's tartan designs and colors come from? No one seemed to know. But never mind! In England it was the beginning of an era of "dandies," where well-dressed fashion-minded upper class were emerging in the British Isles at the time. Tait's "Vestiarium Scoticum" became the new fashion rage of English society.



Then another book came out by John Telfar Dunbar entitled, "The History of Scotland's Dress." Dunbar's book labeled Tait's book a complete forgery. All 75 Clan Tartan designs were baseless. However, the new tartan craze was already underway and out of control in England. Today, 170 years later, virtually all of Tait's Clan tartan designs have been adopted by almost all of Scotland's Clans, including the Kerr Clan.



KERRS/CARRS VISITING SCOTLAND

Contact www.clankerrus.org, and if possible, we will attempt to help arrange tours for you of the Kerr facilities in the Borderlands.

If not already on an organized tour, which includes hotels and transportation, we suggest you also refer to “Scotland Magazine,” which contains a fantastic guide to Scotland’s best hotels by district, along with phone numbers and websites to view their facilities and make reservations. A copy of this map and the hotels is shown on our Clan website from July 2020.

Scotland's Best Hotels

Members of the prestigious Scottish Hotel Awards

5. GARVOCK HOUSE HOTEL
DUNFERMLINE, KY12 7TU
+44 (0)1383 621067
garvock.co.uk

6. THE OLD MANOR HOTEL
LUNDIN LINKS, KY8 6AJ
+44 (0)1333 320368
theoldmanorhotel.co.uk

7. THE MOULIN HOTEL
PITLOCHRY, PH16 5EH
+44 (0)1796 472196
moulinhotel.co.uk

8. EAST HAUGH HOUSE HOTEL
EAST HAUGH, PH16 5TE
+44 (0)1796 473121
easthaugh.co.uk

9. OLD COURSE HOTEL, GOLF RESORT & SPA
ST ANDREWS, KY16 5SP
+44 (0)1334 474371
oldcoursehotel.co.uk

10. THE ATHOLL ARMS HOTEL
BLAIR ATHOLL, PH18 5SG
+44 (0)1796 481205
athollarmshotel.co.uk

11. CRIEFF HYDRO HOTEL
CRIEFF, PH7 3LQ
+44 (0)1764 655555
crieffhydro.com

CLYDE

1. GLEDDOCH HOTEL, SPA & GOLF COURSE
LANGBANK, PA14 6YE
+44 (0)1475 540711
gleddoch.com

2. GOLDEN JUBILEE CONFERENCE HOTEL
DUNBARTONSHIRE, G81 4SA
+44 (0)1419 516000
goldenjubileehotel.com

EDINBURGH

1. THE BONHAM HOTEL
EDINBURGH, EH3 7RN
+44 (0)1312 266050
thebonham.com

7. NIRA CALEDONIA
EDINBURGH, EH3 6EF
+44 (0)1312 252720
niracaledonia.com

8. PRINCES ST SUITES
EDINBURGH, EH1 3EG
+44 (0)1315 581600
princesstreetsuites.com

9. INTERCONTINENTAL EDINBURGH THE GEORGE
EDINBURGH, EH2 2PB
+44 (0)1312 251251
edinburgh.intercontinental.com

10. KIMPTON CHARLOTTE SQUARE HOTEL
EDINBURGH, EH2 4HQ
+44 (0)1312 405500
kimptonhotels.com

11. THE RAEBURN
EDINBURGH, EH4 1HGT
+44 (0)1313 327000
theraeburn.com

12. THE SCOTSMAN HOTEL
EDINBURGH, EH1 1TR
+44 (0)1315 565565
scotsmanhotel.co.uk

13. SHERATAN GRAND HOTEL & SPA
EDINBURGH, EH3 9SR
+44 (0)1312 299131
marriott.co.uk

14. WALDORF ASTORIA EDINBURGH - THE CALEDONIAN
EDINBURGH, EH1 2AS
+44 (0)1312 228888
waldorfasteria3.hilton.com

15. MARKET STREET HOTEL
EDINBURGH, EH1 2AB
+44 (0)1313 229229
cartlon.nl

16. VILLAGE HOTEL CLUB EDINBURGH
EDINBURGH, EH4 2NY
+44 (0)1312 977111
village-hotels.co.uk

6. KIMPTON BLYTHWOOD SQUARE HOTEL
GLASGOW, G2 4AD
+44 (0)141 2488 888
kimptonblythwoodsquare.com

7. THE PIPERS' TRYST HOTEL
GLASGOW, G4 0HW
+44 (0)1413 535551
the-pipers-tryst-hotel.glasgow-hotels-uk.com

8. VILLAGE THE HOTEL CLUB
GLASGOW, G5 1DA
+44 (0)1413 753202
village-hotels.co.uk

9. HILTON GARDEN INN GLASGOW CITY CENTRE
GLASGOW, G3 8HN
+44 (0)1412 401002
hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com

10. DALMENY PARK HOUSE HOTEL
GLASGOW, G78 1LG
+44 (0)1418 819211
dalmenypark.com

11. DOUBLETREE BY HILTON GLASGOW WESTERWOOD SPA & GOLF RESORT
CUMBERNAULD, G2 8DL
+44 (0)1236 457171
doubletree3.hilton.com

12. RADISSON BLU GLASGOW
GLASGOW, G78 1LG
+44 (0)1412 043333
radissonhotels.com

HIGHLANDS

1. BUNCHREW HOUSE HOTEL
INVERNESS, IV3 8TA
+44 (0)1463 234917
bunchrewhousehotel.com

2. DORNOCH CASTLE
SUTHERLAND, IV25 3SD
+44 (0)1862 810216
dornochcastlehotel.com

3. GLENFINNAN HOUSE HOTEL
GLENFINNAN, PH37 4LT
+44 (0)1397 722235

ISLANDS

1. AUCHRANNIE RESORT
ISLE OF ARRAN, KA27 8BZ
+44 (0)1770 302234
auchrannie.co.uk

2. DUISDALE HOUSE HOTEL
ISLE OF SKYE, IV43 80W
+44 (0)1471 833202
duisdale.com

3. GLENISLE HOTEL
ISLE OF ARRAN, KA27 8LY
+44 (0)1770 600559
glenislehotel.com

4. HOTEL EILEAN IARMAIN
ISLE OF SKYE, IV43 8QR
+44 (0)1471 833332
eileaniarmain.co.uk

5. THE MACHRIE HOTEL & GOLF LINKS
ISLE OF ISLAY, PA42 7AN
+44 (0)1496 302310
campbellgrayhotels.com

6. SKEABOST HOUSE HOTEL
ISLE OF SKYE, IV51 9NP
+44 (0)1470 532202
skeabosthotel.com

7. TORAVAIG HOUSE HOTEL
ISLE OF SKYE, IV44 8RE
+44 (0)1471 820200
toravaig.com

8. WESTERN ISLES HOTEL
TOBERMORRY, ISLE OF MULL, PA75 6PR
+44 (0)1688 302012
westernisleshotel.com

9. SLIGACHAN HOTEL
ISLE OF SKYE, IV47 8SW
+44 (0)1478 650204
sligachan.co.uk

SPONSORED BY
Big Scotland
press
Right for the job
78 Scotland

THE WEBMASTER'S CORNER

Well, who thought we be here today, staying close to home and not being able to do the things that we love to do on a normal basis? In the words of a well-known American band, “What a long strange trip it's been”!

Thankfully, we have our computers and our internet access so we are able to find things to do to help pass the time. One of those things has been people doing research on their heritage. As you can see in the section above, “Enquiries from The Ranks,” people are very curious about from where they came, and are looking for contacts who can provide more information about their ancestors. Here at Clan Kerr USA, we have our website that has a section for documenting any of your known ancestors. I would like to implore you to add your material to that section. Please reach out to me at your earliest convenience and I will make arrangements to publish your heritage on our website.

In the future, we hope to work cooperatively with another website that is interested in documenting the current lineage of Kerrs and all their septs. Other clans have a similar kind of repository, so I hope to report in the future that all Kerrs, and their septs, have the same capability. Nothing is imminent, but stay tuned to *The Teviotdale Herald* for more information.



Finally, on our website and our Facebook page we have the Highland Games schedule for this year. As you know the COVID-19 pandemic has raised havoc with the Games schedule across the United States and the world. On our CLANKERRUS (www.clankerr.org) website we have included links to the home pages of some of the Highland Games. Please utilize those links to go to the individual Games sites to see whether they have rescheduled the Games you are interested in attending or if that event has been canceled.

In the end make sure you all stay safe and take care of your loved ones!

Slainte

Bob Shepard

Clan Kerr Webmaster

FROM THE KERR'S SKUNK WORKS

**Kerr members frequently enquire about Scottish traditions.
The “Skunk Works” is intended to
provide information for them.**

WHO WERE THE KERR “WARDENS OF THE MARCHES”?

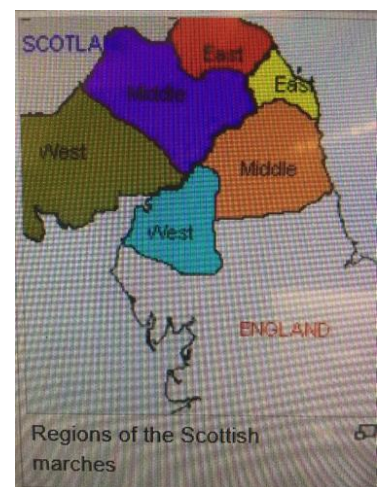
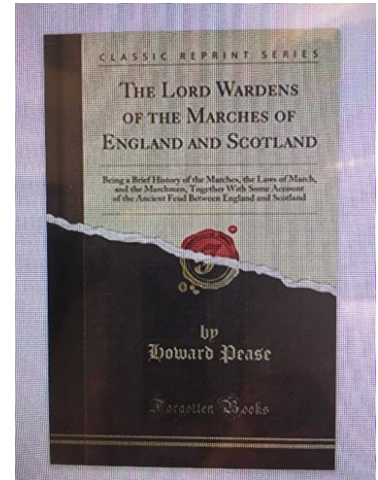


For 403 years, between 1297 and 1600, Scotland's border areas with England were unstable. To keep order, the English created the “Five Lord Wardens of the Marches,” three on the north side of the border and two on the south. Men of prominence on both sides were appointed. Responsible for border security, those on the north side obviously endured many problems with their English counterparts who never considered Scotland much more than a troublesome neighbor ... errant children to be subdued and disciplined. In 1603, Scotland was finally forced to join England when the Crowns of England and Scotland were united under King James. The “Lords of the Marches” were then terminated.

For the 403 years the Kerrs, in the center of the north side of the border, were prominent in the “Middle March.” To the east and west of the Kerrs were other Clans. The Kerrs had problems with many of these Clans. During the 403 years the Marches existed, twenty prominent Clan Kerr representatives served on the north side. Among these were the Kerr, Douglas, Stewart, Home, Scott, Hepburn and Carey. Following are the nine Kerrs who served:

1. 1457 - 1478 Andrew Kerr of Cessford
2. 1502 – 1509 Walter Kerr of Cessford
3. 1510 - 1514 Ralph and Andrew Kerr
4. 1514 - 1514 Sir Robert Ker of Caverton
(killed the same year)
5. 1515 - 1524 Sir Andrew Kerr of Cessford
6. 1541 - 1549 William Kerr of Cessford ⁽¹⁾
7. 1560 - 1582 Sir Walter Kerr of Cessford
8. 1583 - 1584 William Ker of Cessford
9. 1584 - 1591 Sir Thomas Ker of Ferniehurst

⁽¹⁾ In 1545, the famous Borderlands Battle at Ancrum Moor took place some five miles north of Ferniehirst Castle, in which a small Scottish army mostly of local Clans, defeated a much larger British Army and forced it to leave Scotland. The whereabouts of William Kerr at this time is being looked into.



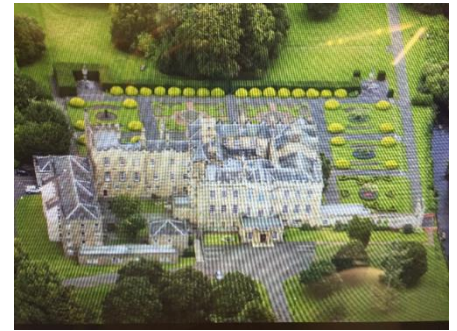
KERR CASTLES IN THE BORDERLANDS

Historically, there have been two branches of the Kerrs who feuded with one another, as did all the Borderland Clans from time-to-time. The two Kerrs were those of Cessford and those of Ferniehirst. Together the Kerr's had eight castles which Wikipedia listed as follows:



1. **Ferniehirst Castle.** Built around 1470, it held the gate to Scotland, commanding the main Borderland road into Scotland. It confronted scores of British challenges.
2. **Newbattle Abbey.** Near Edinburgh became a secular Lordship for Mark Kerr, 1st Earl of Lothian in 1587.
3. **Floors Castle.** A great monument to the Kerr's success.
4. **Roxburgh Castle.** Just across the River Tweed from the Castle.

5. **Castle Holydean.** Destroyed in 1276, and very little now remains.
6. **Cessford Castle.** A massive L-plan castle.
7. **Nisbet House.** A 17th Century tower house configuration.
8. **Kersland Castle.** A tower configuration house near Dalry in Ayreshire.

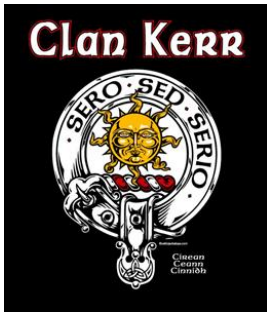


KERR/CARR MEDAL OF HONOR WINNERS

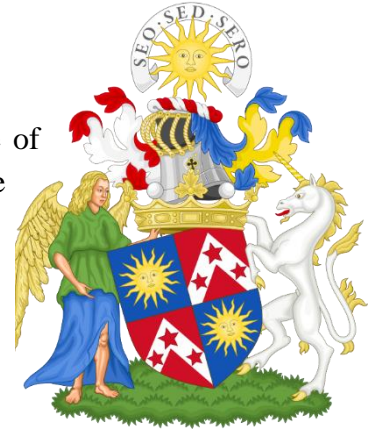
Clan Kerr's membership in the Medal of Honor Association presently stands at eight. The earliest was in 1862, and the most recent awards were from World War II. Their ranks included one Brigadier General, one Colonel, one Captain, one Sergeant, two Army Privates, one Corporal, and one Master-at-Arms aboard a Navy ship. The most interesting might be Marine Corps Corporal Louis W. Carr who was cited for repeated acts of bravery throughout July and August of 1900, during the Boxer Rebellion in Peiking, China. (See www.clankerrus.org website for a list of the award recipients and details).



ORIGIN OF THE CLANS MOTTO AND CREST



The Kerrs were reported to have arrived late at the battle of Ancrum Moor in 1545. Arriving late on the battlefield, the Kerrs saved the day as the sun was setting behind them and in the English faces. Hence ... *“The Sun in its Splendor,”* and *“Late but in Earnest”* on the Kerr Clan crest!



CLAN KERR AMONG AMERICA'S CLANS

Clan Kerr in the United States is among some one hundred and twenty Scottish Clans. A few Clans are not officially recognized at the moment by the Lord Lyon in England as they have no recognized Chief. Clan Kerr's Chief is Michael Kerr (Lord Lothian). The fact that a Clan does or does not have a recognized Chief does not impact the ability of most to attend Games and celebrate their heritage in America.

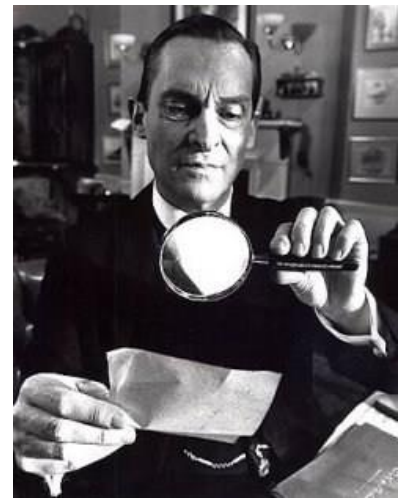


THE KERR LEADERSHIP IN SCOTLAND

For 417 years, from 1603 to today, 13 prominent Kerrs held various official titles bestowed on them by both Scottish leadership and others in England. Our current Chief, Michael Andrew Jude Kerr, is the 13th Marquess of Lothian. Earlier titles borne by our Chief's predecessors across the centuries have been, The Baron of Newbattle, Earl of Lothian, Lord of Jedburgh, Earl of Ancrum, and Duke of Roxburgh. As reported in earlier newsletters, the next Kerr Chief will probably be Johnnie Kerr, who is the son of Lord Lothian's brother, and will bear the title of the 14th Marquess of Lothian.

FOR KERR/CARR MEMBERS DOING RESEARCH ON THEIR HISTORY ...

As the Clan historian and genealogist, I am often asked to help members with their research. The reality of such an endeavor is that those interested also need to do most of the work, which is a long and frustrating challenge. We here at Clan Kerr try to establish the focal point for others as they begin and pursue their research. Clan Kerr's website for instance (www.clankerrus.org), contains five major bullet points entitled "About the Clan." "Heritage Research" contains nine organizations. "Associates" contain another eight. Our "Clan History" and "Newsletters," going back many years, also contain useful research information. And, finally, our "Links" section is also an invaluable reference area.



...AND EVEN DEEPER INTO KERR HISTORY



Ellen Woodrow, one of our California Kerr members, is researching unique and seldom researched Scottish connections into the fog of history. In the four-hundred years between the 6th to 10th Centuries, Norwegian and Swedish Vikings involved in raids in Scotland, also explored the backwoods of the world, across the seas and through the river systems of Europe. Along the Atlantic, they challenged existing civilizations, while eastward they sought new domains in Russia, the Mediterranean and Asia.

Their traces have recently been found as far east as China, where well-preserved mummies are appearing in the Taklaggman Dessert. Tall in stature, wearing wool tartan materials, the bodies have braided blond and red hair, European features, and European dental similarities. Even their graves are in boat-shaped enclosures with painted oars with tartan materials, felt boots and hats. Archaeologists are perplexed as they are also encountering linguistic questions. The Gaelic word for "mead" is the Chinese word for "honey." Taklagg, the name of the local desert there, is the Swedish word for "roof," and many today call the remote Taklagg area, "The Roof of the World."





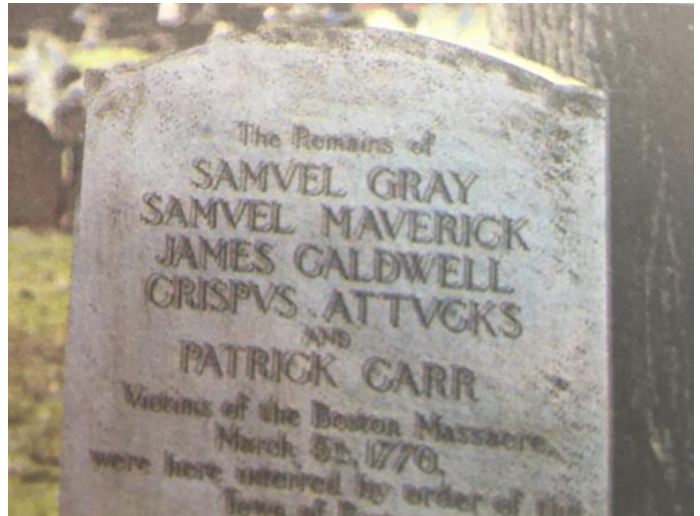
ORIGINS OF THE NAME KERR

Take your pick!

Earlier newsletters have explored the arrival of the Vikings around England and their Swedish word for “Sharr,” which is pronounced “Karr.” Historians and others in the fog of history have attempted to explain other origins of the name according to ancient dictionaries, languages, dialects, and derivatives. For example: “Caer” for a fort, “Ciar” for dusky, “Cearr” for left-handed, “Kjarr” for a marsh dweller, “Curr” slang for a dog in English, and even “Krr” in Hattic which means dignity. The only important thing for all of us today is to be consistent with the modern pronunciation which is “Carr/Karr,” while the most accepted spelling is still “Kerr.”

WHO WAS PATRICK CARR?

Members of Clan Kerr here in the United States, were completely taken by surprise last week when their local newspaper revealed that five Colonists were killed in the first volley of British musket fire by the Redcoats. They were unarmed Americans protesting against various British injustices. Known today as the “Boston Massacre” of March 5, 1770, Patrick Carr was among the five dead. Others killed that day were James Caldwell, Samuel Gray, Samuel Maverick and Crispus Attucks, the first Black American to lose his life in the American Revolution.

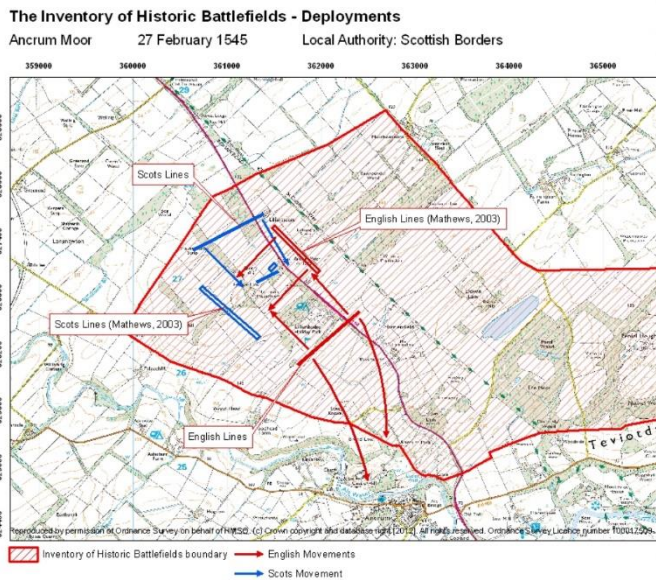
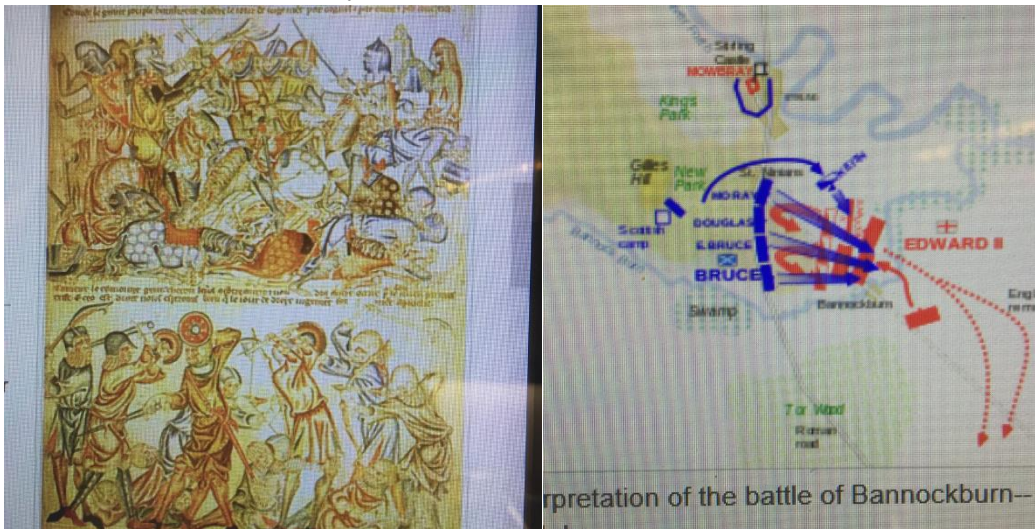


Clan Kerr/Carr members should review their genealogies to see if there was a Patrick Carr in their line who lived in Boston in 1770, with the same date of death. It would be a fascinating family record. The image above was a published photo of their tombstone commemorating their sacrifice.

SCOTLAND'S VARIOUS BATTLES FOUGHT WITH THE BRITISH BETWEEN 875 AD AND 1600⁽¹⁾

	Battles Fought	Those Won by Scots
(1) Early Battles (875-1275)	12	7
(2) Scottish Independence (1296-1327)	37	23
(3) Second War of Scottish Independence	14	6
(4) Border Wars (1372- 1415)	5	2
(5) Anglo Scottish Wars (1436-1542)	8	5
(6) Border Skirmishes (1575)	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTAL	<u>77</u>	<u>44</u>

Due to the large number of these events, future editions of *Teviotdale Herald* will address specific battles, which are most often mentioned in Scottish history.



KERR'S SCOTTISH TEMPLARS AND THE CRUSADES

Research is now underway by Clan Kerr in the United States, to seek the identities of Kerr Knights Templar who left Scotland to fight in the five Crusades during the 175 years between 1096 and 1271. It is now known that significant numbers of Scottish Clansmen (by the thousands), from south and central Scotland, took the Cross and went to the Holy Land to defend Christianity.

A search has now begun to find out more about those involved. For example, 2 Stewart Knights are known to have served with Richard the Lionheart at the famous battle with Saladin at Marsuf, near what is today known as Gaza. Other Stewarts served in the Crusader's Egyptian campaign. Kerrs were there! We intend to look into who, when and where.



Templar Recruiting Locations throughout Europe in 1300 A.D.

