

IN THE HOUSE!

House of Gordon USA Newsletter Annual Edition

Volume 7 Issue 2

May 2013



- ⇒ Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Gordon of Haddo
- ⇒ Meet the Slate of Officers
- ⇒ Charles O. Gordon Scholarship



**Flodden Field
9 September 1513
The Flowers of the Forest
Remembered
500 years later**

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Articles and other materials appropriate for publication are encouraged. All matters submitted for printing are subject to the Editor's approval, who reserves the right to edit prior to publication.

MEMBERSHIP in the **House of Gordon USA** is available to all who bear the surname Gordon, an Associated Family name or to one who has a sincere interest in the Gordons and all things Scottish.

Annual Dues of \$25 are payable annually. Remit to **House of Gordon USA**, 9654 Kessler Avenue, Chatsworth, CA 91311 or remit using Paypal Please visit our website: houseofgordonusa.org for further information.

Message From The Chief!



Dear Members and Friends,

The House of Gordon in America has been through a turbulent time in recent months. There is something hauntingly reminiscent about all this. The Gordons have never been conventional. There is always something going on and often enough it is something unexpected.

When I left the Seaside Games in October 2011 Roger had just taken on the presidency and we discussed together whether there were issues over which I could help him in his new role. I very much regret that we never spoke again and I understand that having resigned he is

now living in Florida. I much enjoyed his company and when out in California he was very kind to me. I hope we shall not be losing him for good.

Lois has agreed to take up the presidency and I am very grateful to her. I know also that John Lowry has been doing his able best to keep the organisation working together and I would like to extend my thanks to all those of you who have done likewise. Unity is essential if we are to enjoy a prosperous and stimulating future together.

We all know the adage of one door closing and another opening so it is with great pleasure that I welcome Nikki Gordon and Bonnie Linse and Evan Rose who are taking on administrative responsibilities which we so badly need. Thank you all so much and I look forward to meeting you when a visit can be arranged in the future.

I am sitting at my desk in the castle looking across hills white with snow. I do not count myself amongst those who dislike the Winter. The cold is not always enjoyable but crisp days with pale blue skies and snow crackling underfoot are memories I treasure. We have a mystery here today. From the small river passing by the front lawn an animal has taken to the bank and left its prints in the snow. It either had a long tail or it was dragging something – footprints are largely obliterated but the animal returned to the water some 50 feet downstream. Old timers are leaning over the prints muttering to themselves. I told them it was a relation of the abominable snowman or perhaps a Gordon clan member of the nautical variety. They were not particularly amused by my suggestions. If you don't hear from me again it may have come back to get me!

Thank you all for your continued support of Lois and her team. Your chief sends you traditional hearty greetings hoping you have a great season of highland gatherings in 2013. He will be with you in spirit.

Aye,
Huntly

Board of Directors' Message



With the recent resignation of President Roger Mills, I was asked to make a few remarks which I am pleased to do. First it seems appropriate to thank Roger Mills

and his Board for the good work that was accomplished during his abbreviated term. Our beloved House of Gordon USA has undergone some wrenching growth spasms recently that have threatened the very fiber of our future. So-called "territorial ownership" of this USA organization has foolishly put a strain on our usual united front. The beauty of our collective Clan meetings anywhere in the US has been harmed by an invisible wedge of jealousy and divisiveness that is neither welcomed nor wanted by our people. While there is no Mason-Dixon Line separating quarreling factions, there might be termed the Continental Divide or the "Rocky Mountain misunderstanding" separating the two. A wonderfully energetic group of members along the Atlantic tier of states has faced off in opposition to a vocal yet motley crew of Pacific shore members who, perhaps understandably, allowed power to go to their heads when they hosted a HofG USA AGM for the first time in history. Now, can we put that lesson to rest and move forward? I think we can.

Some months ago, John Gordon of Illinois was asked to chair a Nominations Committee to locate and convince a qualified slate of candidates to allow their names to appear on a ballot at the 2013 AGM which has been determined be held at GMHG

(Grandfather Mt. Highland Games) near Linville, NC in July. John has done exactly that and, we believe, has come up with a marvelous slate of highly qualified leaders to carry a united Clan Society forward together. It seems that ALL quarters of the country are represented and that every candidate, regardless of his or her home state, will have every member and every Scottish Festival—large or small—utmost in their thoughts as they carry out their duties. I, being an old warhorse from our Charles O. Gordon days (may he rest in peace), welcome the thought of us every one doing our very best to further and grow our numbers and knowledge of our Clan and its history.

Elsewhere in this issue there is a ballot naming those candidates who will welcome your vote...or an option for write-ins, if you so choose. And, while we hope you can attend GMHG for the AGM in person, there is likewise a proxy for you to name someone to vote in your stead if you cannot. Be there or at least be represented by a person of your choice!

A final word about our Clan Chief Granville Charles Huntly, 13th Marquis of Huntly known as the "Cock o' the North," who has remained a constant friend and supporter throughout our recent hard times. He was the special guest of the 2011 Seaside Highland Games and had to witness that power struggle. The Chief, a personal friend of so many of us, wishes us all success in the heavy Festival season ahead and always welcomes a personal note when you are able. Thanks for reading this and thanks for your support of our UNITED House of Gordon USA! **BYDAND!**

What's Happening In The House!

We are pleased to be able to offer our House of Gordon members the offer from Scots Heritage Magazine of a subscription at half price! It is a beautiful magazine, well written and interesting. We hope many of you will choose to enjoy it! See page 8 for details!

Scottish themed pot-luck on her last day in honor of Tartan Day. During her time with the company she achieved many customer service, shrinkage, district and regional awards as well as being named Associate of the Month, and a James Cash Penny Award recipient eight times for her community service.



SW off and running in 2013!

The Queen Mary Scottish Festival held around Valentine's Day in Long Beach, CA, traditionally kicks off the season in the Southwestern United States. The massive former cruise ship is now owned by the City of Long Beach and is very much under funded and sadly maintained. So much so that the Clans were moved from the hold of the ship to the parking lot along with most vendors. Only dance and a few other special events were allowed to remain aboard.

Congratulations to Corporal Aaron Todd of Virginia on being named NCO of the Quarter for his battalion in the 3rd Quarter of 2012 and also for the 1st Quarter of 2013. Ooh Rah Aaron!

Congratulations to Lois Todd of Virginia on her retirement from JCPenney after almost 24 years with the company. Lois' co-workers celebrated her years of service with a Tartan Week Celebration. Bagpipe music, dancers, and Scottish history were celebrated all week long and culminated in a



Athletics were already being held at a nearby grassy lot. (below the Gold Coast Pipe Band at the Queen Mary Games)



Needless to say, many Clans are not too pleased about this turn of events and only 15 or so bothered to attend. But we Gordons did! Tom Adams and Daughter Christine set up a large tent and received many visitors on both days. Nellie and John Lowry "sub-leased" a portion of the ample space to talk about the Seaside Highland Games which do not come up until early October but there was still much interest and plenty of talk about last October when attendance records were blown away with 27,000 on the grounds.

Many extra attractions formerly included with the Queen Mary Games including all daytime live music performances were dropped which leads me to believe that the future of this Festival may be in jeopardy. We will keep a close eye on this once very pleasant "season opener."

Bakersfield Games: The Kern County Scottish Gathering and Games is a small Festival held for the last 18 years in Bakersfield, CA. While the venue has changed several times over the years, they were back at the Fairgrounds which is a huge expanse and far more than this little gathering needs or can use. An abbreviated "Clan Row" occupied a small lane with about twenty Clan Societies represented.

The Gordon crew consisting of Tom, Arlene and Christine Adams was at one end along with our ever-present Seaside Games paraphernalia. Both the Clan and the Games drew an excellent crowd all day of this one day Festival. There is a fine band shell where several local bands performed throughout the day and a very large number of Scottish athletes were throwing on a nearby field (picture below). The herding



dogs were immediately behind us and the faithful were pleased. A Ceilidh has been held on the Saturday night of this one day affair for

several years but we are often eager to hit the road for the hundred mile trek back home.

Gulf States Starts the year off as Honored Clan at Minden, LA on

Tartan Day. Marcia forgot to take pictures, but Shelia Hoh sent this one! The gulf states are really



coming along, but Marcia could use help with hosting some Gordon tents. It's a long way to go and takes

a lot of money for one person to cover so much area, where local folks can host a tent for very little at most games. If anyone is interested in taking on a game in the Gulf States area, please contact us!

Florida gets new convener! We would like to thank Norval Marr for his many years of service as our convener. Norval has been a staunch supporter of the House of Gordon, but at 89 says its time to hand over the job to someone else.

Welcome to new member AND new Convener for Florida, Cynthia Gordon Patrick! Cynthia has been informally hosting a Gordon tent for the last five years at the Central Florida Scottish Highland Games in Winter Springs. She says she has a great amount of pride in being born a Gordon. We know she do a great job in growing the House in Florida!

Washington State gets new convener in Mark A. Todd. The Gordon group meets each year at the Pacific Northwest Scottish

Highland Games and hold a meeting, where they elect a Convener. Mark says he believes the organization has collapsed to a one man show, but has hopes of breathing life back into the organization. Mark contacted John Lowry, our Convener Chair, for advice on doing just that. He now has membership applications, brochures and more to work with. Welcome aboard Mark! We're looking for great things in the PNW!

Mid-Atlantic started the year at the Lexington Scots Festival April 13th. This small event is growing steadily. We had perfect weather and were treated to some Sticky Toffee Pudding by our friends at Scottish Cottage! The recipe came from Aberdeen and was awesome! We enjoyed the day with friends from all over and had some new faces reporting in at the Gordon tent and hope to have them joining the clan society soon!

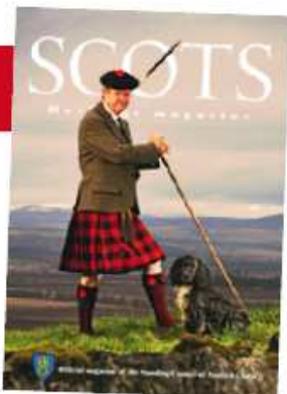
Everyone had a good time, and the guys even got up to dance!



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Charles O. Gordon Scholarship



We are pleased to announce that Maren Seul of Portsmouth, New Hampshire has been named as a Charles O. Gordon Scholarship recipient for 2013. Maren is a 13 year-old Highland dancer who has represented the Eastern Region in the United States Inter-Regional Championships for the past three years. She has travelled far and wide for competitions including competing at the Queen Mary Games in California this year. She has diligently been pursuing her dance examinations and last year sat for several exams scoring top marks in all.

We are happy to be able to assist her in her endeavors to perfect her art.



We are pleased to announce that Maria Taylor of Farmington, Michigan has been named as a Charles O. Gordon Scholarship recipient for 2013. Maria has spent twelve years dancing the Highland dance. She co-founded the Alma College Scottish Arts Society for which she served as Vice-President, and performed with the Kiltie Dancers, the college's Highland dance troupe.

She has passed the Associate's, Member's, and Fellow's exams with the British Association of Teachers of Dancing. And she assisted in teaching young dancers under the guidance of nationally – acclaimed Highland dance instructor, Christie Freestone. Currently, she is studying for the rigorous Judges exam, which she will be taking this spring. We are happy to be able to give her a little bit of help on her well thought out path!

DNA Studies reveal lost peoples in Scotland!

Dr. Jim Wilson is a geneticist and Senior Lecturer in the Centre for Population Health Sciences at the University of Edinburgh where his group studies population history and structure, and the genetics of complex disease. His group also analyzes genetic structure and history using genome-wide data and the Y chromosome. He first demonstrated genetic evidence for Norse Viking ancestry in the British Isles over ten years ago, and is the founder of the genetic ancestry testing companies ScotlandsDNA, IrelandsDNA, and BritainsDNA. He has been hard at work and his findings are nothing short of astounding. Peoples long thought to have disappeared are being identified as alive and well and among us! Around 1,000 people have been tested in the past four months as part of the Scotland's DNA project, and the preliminary results reveal the diversity of Scotland's genetic origins.

The study even found that Bonnie Prince Charlie the Jacobite prince had English ancestry (not too terribly surprising), but truly astounding is the revelation that one per cent of Scotsmen, around 26,000 individuals, are descended from the Berber and Tuareg tribesmen of the Sahara, with a lineage going back 5,600 years.

The project has also found a lost tribe, the Maeatae, who fought the

Roman legions in 208AD and seemed to disappear from recorded history in the 8th century. The latest DNA techniques re-discovered them – concentrated in their historic homelands around Stirling.

Almost 100 different groups of male ancestry have been found so far from all over Europe, and further afield, and 157 types of female DNA from Europe, Asia and Africa. The project, set up by Dr Jim Wilson, a geneticist at Edinburgh University, and Alistair Moffat, the journalist and current rector of St Andrews University, has now been expanded to offer the same service to people all over the UK.

Others tested – through a sample of spit - include the Duke of Buccleuch, Britain's biggest private landowner, whose DNA is an exact match of a descendant of Charles Stewart of Ardshiel, who fought at the Battle of Culloden for Bonnie Prince Charlie.

The Royal Stewart DNA is also found in 15 per cent of men with that surname, which means there are thousands of Scots wandering the streets with a "smidgen of royal blood in their veins", said Dr Wilson.

The duke's genetic marker is thought to take the story back to south-west England, suggesting that the Stewarts were originally Cornishmen.

Recently Dr. Wilson found a new marker Y chromosome marker that arose among the direct ancestors of the Picts, R1b-S530. He tested the new fatherline in more than 3,000 British and Irish men and found an “amazing statistic” suggesting it was ten times more common in men with Scottish grandfathers, than in men with English grandfathers.

Ten per cent of the more than 1,000 Scottish men tested carry the R1b-S530 marker, while only 0.8 per cent of Englishmen have it. About three per cent of men in Northern Ireland also carry the marker, but it was only seen once in more than 200 men from the Republic of Ireland, which reflects the colonization of the Ulster Plantations by the Scots. One participant of the study from the Western Isles declared himself “absolutely a Celt” before taking the test and “went quiet” when told his DNA was Pictish, before saying: “I don’t know what I’m going to tell my sons.”

Dr Wilson said this difference is highly statistically significant and can be applied to the general population as clear evidence of a very Scottish marker. “The finding just popped out of the analysis. While there have been hints of this from previous data, what was surprising was the really huge difference between England and Scotland. It is also a clear sign that although people have moved around in recent times, there

remains a core who have stayed at home, for a very long time.” He added: “As you go up your family tree there are all sorts of paths. But if we can see that about 10 per cent of fatherlines look to have a Pictish origin, then we can make the prediction that probably a lot of the other lines do.”

Alistair Moffat, the historian and co-founder of BritainsDNA, added: “Politically the Picts seemed to vanish after a crucial battle with the Vikings in Strathmore in 839 and the establishment of Kenneth MacAlpin and his dynasty in the middle of the 9th century. But what these fascinating new findings tell us is that, kings and dynasties apart, there is a hidden, people’s history of Scotland bubbling under the headlines, a history only DNA can reveal.”

Ancient Pictland has been defined by historians as the area primarily north of the Forth where Pictish symbol stones and Pictish place-names are found. Pit and Pett prefixes are considered to be particular to the Picts, particularly in Fife, Perthshire, Tayside, the Northeast and around the Moray Firth coastlands. Low and behold this is the very same area where there is a strong concentration of the R1b-S530 group. **Hello Picts!**

***There is some controversy amongst genetic DNA scientist over Dr. Wilson’s conclusions. Time will tell if he is on target or not.*

THE GORDON DNA PROJECT

WWW.THEGORDONDNAPROJECT.COM

THE HOUSE OF GORDON DNA PROJECT UPDATE 2013

Jim Gordon Co-Administrator

We are fast closing in on 500 members in our Project. Unlike past years, there haven't been any remarkable scientific breakthroughs. Having said that, though, there have been some refinements in haplogroup (that's the letters and numbers in your results, such as R1b2a1 or I1a) identification. Some have been reclassified in the final few letters and numbers of the haplogroup as DNA analysts have been able to refine their identifications. See last year's article (now available online at the House of Gordon USA website) for a more detailed description of the reclassification information.

Tei is still working on the reclassification and re-identification of the groupings of members. It has been a slow process, but when completed, some of our members who are presently in the "Newly-discovered" or "Yet-to-be-classified" groupings may well find themselves in the Jock and Tam or Sir William groupings and some of those in the Jock & Tam or Sir William grouping may find that they actually belong to another.

Some groups of our members have

been putting their heads together and comparing paper trails in order to refine their ancestry. I've been adding my two cents worth to a couple of these efforts.

If you're a member of the Project and have yet to submit your pedigree/family tree, please do so as soon as possible. If you use genealogical software, generate an Outline Descendant Tree, Descendant Report or a gedcom and send it to Tei; if you don't use genealogical software, you can send what you know, to include dates and places of birth, marriage and death, using a word processor and send it to Tei.

If you're not a member and curious about your Scottish or Scots-Irish heritage, take a look at the Project webpage:

www.thegordondnaproject.com).

To order a testing kit, scroll down until you see the "Kit Order" button on the left.. Click on it and you'll be taken to a page to order your kit. By ordering your kit thru the Project, you received a discount on the testing costs. Be sure and order a minimum of a 37-marker test. The other tests (12- or 25-marker) don't provide enough data for good matches. The 12-marker test will just confirm that you are a Gordon and that you match nearly 500 other Gordons, which is not very

helpful.. The 25-marker test provides a little more data and the 37-marker provides enough data to match with others in whatever grouping you fall into. Additional tests, such as the 67- and 111-marker tests provide analysts with additional data points to refine your ancestry.

If you've tested with a company other than FTDNA, you can transfer your results to be included in our Project, Just drop Tei a line at and he will arrange it to be done.

DNA is only one tool in genealogy arsenal of weapons. The primary weapon is your paper trail. DNA only serves to confirm or refute your paper trail.

A good example, some members of the Project have surnames other than Gordon, yet their DNA shows they are genetically Gordons. These are usually attributed to "non-paternal events." Such non-paternal events include adoptions, both formal and informal. Many times in the 18th and early 19th centuries, there were disasters of one sort or another where a child might be orphaned with no relatives nearby. The child might be adopted by neighbors, his name changed and he brought up as a member of the new family, ignorant of the circumstances.

Another incident could be a widow with young children remarrying and the children adopting the stepfather's surname. Courts and lawyers were few and far between in those

days and no one made anything of it and the children grew up with the new surname. There were also cases where Gordons were the adopting family. We've had some instances of this also.

Bottom line -- Men, if you haven't tested your DNA, sign up! Ladies, you can test also, although it will be a different one, called mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). This traces female descent, but because female surnames generally change from generation to generation, it's not as useful as men's Y-DNA in tracing the pedigree back through the records.

If you want further information, contact either me or Tei. Our emails are listed below.

Tei Gordon tagordon@hotmail.com

Jim Gordon jimgordo1@gmail.com



Flowers of the Forest — the Battle of Flodden Field



James IV of Scotland

Five hundred years ago the Flowers of Scotland were felled at Flodden decimating an entire generation and leaving the leadership of Scotland in turmoil. It was said that not one family was without a grave on Branxton Hill where James IV made his last stand.

James IV of Scotland was the first king of Scotland in a century to be able to immediately take on the role of king personally. He was 15 when forced to ride against his father at Sauchieburn where James III was killed by a priest while fleeing the field. A few days later he was crowned at Scone and for his unwilling part in the death of his father he purportedly wore an iron belt about his waist in penance the rest

of his life (although some sources say he only wore it during lent each year).

James was intelligent and was described by Erasmus thus: "He had wonderful powers of mind, an astonishing knowledge of everything, an unconquerable magnanimity and the most abundant generosity." He had an innate curiosity and took an active interest and hand in everything from dentistry & minor surgery to literature, science, the law, the arts and the art of war and most importantly to government. He was a tireless traveler traversing much of Scotland in his administrative duties settling many disputes between his noblemen and clan feuds and also bringing the Lord of the Isles under control in 1493. He established Edinburgh Castle as one of Scotland's foremost gun foundries, and he built his navy into one of the best in the world at the time, creating two new shipyards in the process. He commissioned the building of *Michael*, the largest ship of the time being 240 feet in length and 35 feet in beam with a displacement of about 1000 tons, four masts, 24 guns on the broadside, 1 basilisk forward and 2 aft, 30 smaller guns (later increased to 36 main guns), and a crew of 300 sailors, 120 gunners, and up to 1,000 soldiers. She also carried Mons Meg, the great cannon which had a caliber of 22 inches making her the

warship with the largest caliber gun in history.

He was a noted polyglot and spoke Latin, Flemish, French, English, German, Italian, Spanish and Danish as well as Lowland Scots and Gaelic. He established education as a priority making it compulsory for barons and land owners thus establishing schools in every community the size of a village; established Aberdeen University in 1495, granted Edinburgh College of Surgeons a Royal Charter in 1506, St. Leonard's College (St. Andrew's) in 1511, completing the four ancient universities of St. Andrews, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen, and brought the first printing press to Scotland in 1507. He was a patron of the arts and his makars (poets) were well known for their diverse works and social commentary and for the art of flyte, a poetic battle of wits, sarcasm and insult that came to America with the influx of Scots and is the antecedent of today's rap. And he is the first recorded player of golf!

This was a true people's king, popular with the nobility and the humble. He enjoyed travelling incognito amongst his people and getting the opinion of the common man on their king and government and their ideas on what would improve their life. James Seymour in his book Battles in Britain described James as "*one of the best-loved and most forward-looking kings to sit on the Scottish throne. In the twenty-five years of his reign he*

developed the country's commerce, stabilised the currency, improved the navy and efficiently over-hauled the administration of justice." He commanded the loyalty of his people, and that made his mistakes leading to the disaster of Flodden all the more heart rending.

His first mistake was in allowing Henry VII of England (and later Henry VIII) to get under his skin supporting Perkin Warbeck in his pretensions to the English throne (going so far as to offer up his cousin Catherine Gordon as his wife) and renewing the border skirmishes. His second was to go against the advice of his council and renew the Auld Alliance with Louis XII of France. The third and fatal mistake was extending his chivalrous and honorable behavior to Surrey and the English forces giving them time when he should have either taken the upper hand or strategically retreated. Flodden was a comedy of errors that resulted in catastrophic grievous tragedy.

The marriage of James to Margaret Tudor and the signing of the Treaty of Perpetual Peace in 1502 could have ended the strife between the two kingdoms for his lifetime, but with the death of Henry VII and the ascension of Margaret's brother Henry VIII, the relationship between the two deteriorated. Margaret's dowry still had not been paid in full – ten years after the treaty requiring it. Her brother saw no reason to honor it. England joined the Anti-France European alliance, the Holy

League, created by the pope in 1511 in response to the French making war in the Italian peninsula. The English attacked several Scottish ships using a supposed alliance between France and Scotland as cause despite the peace treaty between England and Scotland, and refused to make restitution. All these factors played into James' decision in 1512 to renew the Auld Alliance. His council argued against it for the obvious reason that Scotland had nothing to gain and everything to lose. France was too far away to assist should England attack Scotland and the most that could be hoped for would be the French navy to make some trouble for the English to the south. However, should England and France go to war, the Scots would be required by honor to attack immediately across the border. James should have listened to their objections and stayed out of it. As the council had foreseen, this was the situation that led to the Battle of Flodden.

In May 1513 England attacked France when Henry decided to renew the 100 years war hoping to expand his territory in France using the French-Italian skirmishes as his excuse. Before leaving he had made Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey his lieutenant in the north and exhorted him to watch the borders saying: *"My Lord, I trust not the Scots, therefore I pray you be not negligent."* Louis appealed to James for help, and his queen ap-

pealed to his sense of chivalry entreating James to act as her champion sending him 14,000 crowns to back her plea.

Muster orders in Scotland were sent out in July, and the artillery train left Edinburgh for the borders in August. French ships brought ordnance, pikes and handguns, and 5,000 French troops to train the Scots. Still, James attempted a diplomatic solution and sent The Lord Lyon King of Arms to persuade Henry of the serious nature of his invasion of France and of the imminent threat of an invasion of the north of England. Henry replied in an insulting manner by accusing James of breaking the treaty of friendship between England and Scotland, and waiting till Henry's back was turned before attacking England. James felt he was left with no option but to go to war. Ironically just a few days later on 12 August the war in France was over, one final skirmish later called the Battle of the Spurs for the quickness of the French to leave the field occurred on the 16th of August. Why then was not some effort made on the part of the English or the French to try and halt the escalation of Anglo-Scot hostilities? Most likely Henry had his eye on Scotland and Louis just didn't care now that his worries for the moment were in abeyance.

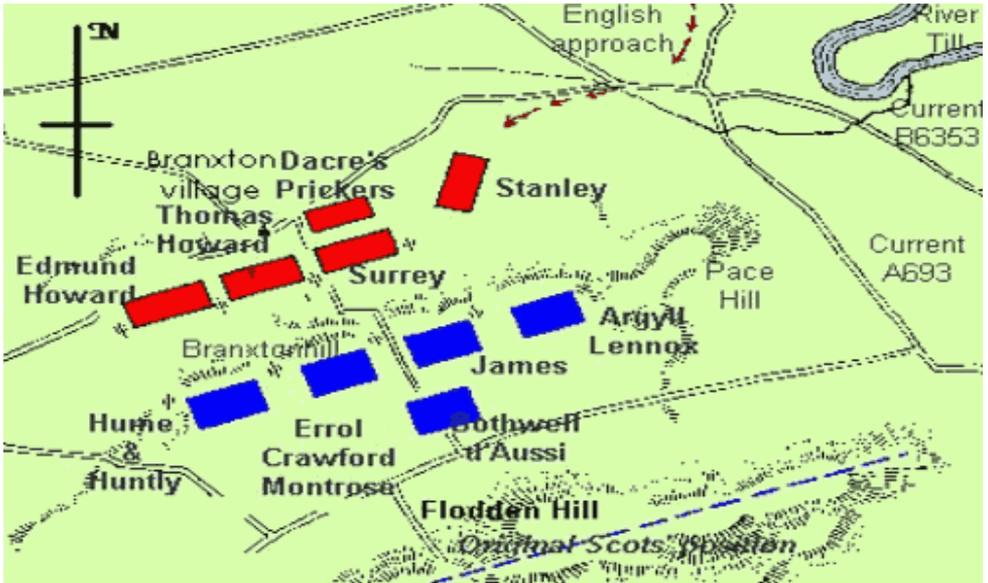
The Scots crossed the border with upwards of 60,000 men on August 22nd and took Etal, Ford and Northam. By September James' avail-

able troops were down to between 35,000 and 40,000 through desertion, and detachment for garrison duty.

The Scottish went to battle having recently transitioned to the use of pikes, a long pole weapon used in square formation mainly for defense, with only the most experienced troops able to manage the aggressive attacking formations. Although they had received training from the French in the art of pike warfare, they were not well drilled in the tight formations needed to wage this type of battle. This was not a standing army well drilled in all the weapons and maneuvers of war. They were an amateur army called into service from the male civilian population between 16 and 60, at 8 days notice, to serve for 40 days. Few had the experience of the Gordon clansmen, and all were better trained for a different type of

fighting. The English were equipped with bills, a polearm weapon topped with a hooked chopping blade with sharp projections that was used in a slashing manner. Surrey was also joined by his son Thomas, the Lord Admiral, who brought along about 1000 men from the fleet, many of whom were experienced naval gunners, which proved to be one of the deciding factors of the day. Worried that the Scottish might get away, Surrey sent his herald to James to complain of his 10 mile incursion into English territory and to issue a challenge to meet them in battle on Milfield Plain north of Wooler. James had only taken small fortifications and stayed close to the border with an apparent intention of satisfying the French, but not incurring any damage that could not easily be undone to the English. James did not reckon with Henry's acquisitive nature; Henry, who had





seemingly done much to provoke his brother-in-law and Scotland, and done nothing to ameliorate any resulting hostile situation. James sent back a reply to Surrey saying he would stay where he was until the 9th of September, staying where he was then located atop Flodden Hill.

The day of the battle the English approached and had to cross the River Till by the Twizzel Bridge. Seeing the English moving to take position on Piper Hill, James ordered the burning of the camp refuse blocking the Scottish movements from the English view. Had he attacked with his guns and troops at this juncture he may well have won the day. However, instead of attacking them when they were at their most vulnerable, he moved his troops to take position atop the adjacent Branxton Hill. At

four o'clock the Scottish began their bombardment of the English, and it quickly became apparent that the gunners were woefully inexperienced. To make matters worse they could not lower the angle of the guns enough to meet the trajectory needed. Meanwhile the English naval gunners were wreaking havoc upon the Scots and decimated the Scottish gunners.

Seeing the weakness on the English right flank, Home and Huntly attacked and drove the English back with great success. Seeing this, James either thinking the English were breaking, or by default choosing to lead the headlong rush of his men in their battle fever, attacked downhill into the English. The problem was they had to cross marshy land to get at the English, all the while under archer fire. Even then they made progress until they

came into close quarter fighting where the inexperienced pike men were no match for the English with their bills which cut off the heads of the pikes and then chopped them in two, leaving the Scots with a useless pole. Fighting against the bills with sword was ineffectual as they could not get within reach to do much damage. Thomas Ruthal, Bishop of Durham wrote to Thomas Woolsey about the battle and said of the Scots:

“The said Scots were so surely harnessed with complete harness, German jacks, rivets, splents [forms of body armor], pavises [large wooden shields], and other habilments, that shot of arrows in regard did them no harm; and when it came to hand strokes of bills and halberds, they were so mighty, large, strong, and great men that they would not fall when four or five bills struck on one of them at once. Howbeit our bills quitted them very well, and did more good that day than bows, for they shortly disappointed the Scots of their long spears wherein was their greatest trust; and when they came to hand stroke, though the Scots fought sore and valiantly with their swords, yet they could not resist the bills that lighted so thick and sore upon them.”

James and his men fought on, the right wing at this point was

the only one not in action, upon seeing the king in need, Huntly exhorted Lord Home to take his border horse (cavalry) to his aid. Home replied rudely, *“He does well that does for himself. We have fought our vanguard already; let others do as well as we.”* This attitude of every man for himself did little for James who died within a few feet of Surrey’s standard. Home abandoned the battle to lead borders men from both sides in a frenzy of looting – reiving at it’s worst. The next morning he was quickly chased away from Braxton Hill by English cannons.

In a few hours time 10,000 Scots died. Among the dead were King James IV, his son Alexander, Bishop of St. Andrews, three bishops, 12 earls, and 13 barons. Huntly led his men in a strategic retreat, but Gordon dead included Sir Alexander Gordon of Knockenshene and Barskeauch, Galloway; Sir Alexander Gordon, younger, of Lochinvar and Kenmure; George Gordon, Schevis, Aberdeenshire; John Gordon of Auchlurchries; Robert Gordon, Ardes Uvir, Nethir and Myddill, Galloway; William Gordon, Laird of Gight and Master of Inverlochry Castle (died in battle commanding the Clan Cameron), Sir William Seton third son of 2nd Earl of Huntly, and Sir Alexander Seton, 2nd of Touch, grandson of the 1st Earl of Huntly.

The king’s body was taken to England where it lay unburied at the monastery of Sheen in Surrey. After the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII, the body was thrown into

a wood closet and from there lost. Many tales have been told as to the final disposition of the body, but no record has been found to substantiate any of the tales.

The battle was later commemorated with the lament "Flowers of the Forest." The tune known among the regimental pipers simply as "The Lament" is considered so sacred it is rarely spoken of or played except to teach it and to commemorate special remembrances and memorials such as Armistice Day. The tune was taken from a an old ballad published under the same name in Skene's manuscript in 1630.

Miss Jane Elliot, daughter of Sir Gilbert Elliot of Minto, Lord Chief Justice Clerk of Scotland, created her tribute to James IV and the fallen at Flodden on a bet by her brother who himself was a noted songwriter. The challenge: to write a song on Flodden, and the prize: a pair of gloves.

It was first published by David Herd in 1776 anonymously as she wished to disown it. Many people at the time took it as an ancient lament, but Burns was not fooled and sought out the author. Thus she received credit for her work.

The Flowers of the Forest

*I've heard the liltin at oor yowe-milkin,
Lassies a-liltin before break o day
Now there's a moanin on ilka green loanin
The Flooers o the Forest are a' wede awa*

*At buchts, in the mornin,
nae blythe lads are scornin,
Lassies are lanely and dowie and wae
Nae daffin, nae gabbin,
but sighin and sabbinn,
The Flooers o the Forest are a' wede awa*

*In hairst at the shearin,
nae youths now are jeerin,
Bandsters are lyart and runkled and gray
At fair or at preachin,
nae wooin, nae fleechin -
The Flooers of the Forest are a' wede awa*

*At e'en at the gloamin,
nae swankies are roamin
'Bout stacks wi the lassies
at bogle tae play
But ilk ane sits dreary,
lamentin her deary -
The Flooers of the Forest are a' wede awa*

*Dule and wae for the order,
sent oor lads to the Border
The English, for aince,
by guile wan the day
The Flooers of the Forest,
that focht aye the foremost
The prime o our land, lie cauld in the clay*

*We hear nae mair liltin at oor yowe-milkin
Women and bairnies are heartless and wae
Sighin and moanin on ilka green loanin -
The Flooers of the Forest are a' wede awa*

yowe – ewe
 ilka - each, every
 loaning - road to a grazing
 wede – withered
 buchts - cattle pens
 dowie – sad
 daffin' - having fun
 leglin - milking pail
 hairst – harvest
 bandsters – harvesters
 lyart – grizzled
 fleeching - cajoling/flattering
 swankies - young bloods
 bogle - hide-and-peek

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THE FLOWERS OF THE FOREST



Flowers of the Forest



BRIAN THOMAS MILLNS 78, of Hesperia, CA passed away on 10-31-12 at home from respiratory failure. Brian was born in Manchester, England on May 20, 1934 to Thomas and Mary Millns. Brian served as an Apprentice Air Frame Fitter in the Royal Air Force during his school days. After graduating from Manchester Boys High School he joined the British Army and served in Egypt and Cypress.

Upon completing his service he became a machinist by trade and worked in a variety of industries in England, Canada and the US. He immigrated to Michigan in 1967. His most recent employment was with San Bernardino County in Work Force Development and Sheriff Service Specialist.

Brian and his wife met on the internet in 1998 and he often quipped that Nancy was the low bidder on EBay. He moved to the high desert in 1999 and married Nancy Ross on April 24, 2004. Brian was 32nd degree Mason and active in the Scottish Community. He loved to play practical jokes and had a wicked sense of humor.

Brian Millns was predeceased by his son Stephen Millns of Michigan. Brian is survived by his wife, Nancy, his beloved dogs, Jill and Buster. His children, Lee and Cyndi Millns, Barry Millns, Colin and Linda Millns, Glenn and Cindy Millns, and Brenda Millns Warren of Michigan, as well as 7 grandchildren and one great-grand child. His siblings, Joyce Ward, Thomas Millns, John Millns, Rosemary Millns, Else Millns and Susan Millns, as well as extended family in England. His body has been donated to science.

Our condolences to Mac Adams of Richmond, Virginia on the passing of his father Pete, March 4, 2013. Mac writes: On January 18, 1934 **Bernard Lee "Pete" Adams**, was born. He worked on the family farm and later became an electrician and married Janice Marie Wade, who he loved very much. My dad raced go-carts for years and became a life long member of the Loyal Order of the Moose where I and a few others became "Lodge Rats" (just kids, always being underfoot at the Lodge). He watched me grow up, become a police officer, get married and have two great kids. He doted over my mom when she became sick and cried the day she died. Today, I cry because he died. Godspeed and rest in peace, Pop. You were loved by all; me above all. Mac Adams

Our hearts are with Geof Baker of Midlothian, Virginia on the

passing of his sister, Kimberly Ann Bare of Exton, Pennsylvania. Kimberly Ann Bare, 55, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 27, 2012 with grace and the love of her family. She battled a rare neurological disorder, Olivopontocerebellar Atrophy (OPCA), for a long time and passed away in her sleep. Kim was born in Hartford, Conn. and was one of three children born to Bruce R. Baker of Malvern and the late Nancy (Peterson). After she graduated Great Valley Sr. High School in 1975, she went on to raise a family and worked at the Malvern campus of Penn State University. Kim did great things during her time here and touched many lives. She enjoyed spending time with her friends and family and loved her grandchildren. Kim enjoyed reading, music, dancing and her pets. In addition to her father, Bruce, she is survived by her two children, son Zachary and daughter Rebecca; her two loving grandchildren, Kayla Bare and Dean Brumbaugh, Jr.; her brother Geoffrey of Midlothian Va. together with his wife, Beverly and her nieces, Allison and Victoria; and her sister, Suzanne Baker-McDermott and husband Jamie of Kennett Square. She is also survived by a host of other relatives and friends. She will be sorely and forever missed by all. *Kimmy, our piper sent you a tune to mark your passing and guide you along the low road home.*

AGM at Grandfather!

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Grandfather Mountain Highland Games on Saturday July 13th this year where we will be electing officers for the next two years. The meeting time will be posted at the Gordon tent on Clan row, will be held in the campground away from the noise and distractions so that we can have an efficient flow to the meeting and get back to the fun on the mountain in good order! All Gordons are welcome and we encourage you to attend the meeting or to send in your proxy.

Following Saturday's closing ceremony we will be holding the camper's annual pot-luck in the Gordon camping area. We are throwing in some extra dishes for our clan members who don't camp out **and all are welcome to come join us!** Smoked meats from our rock oven will abound and there will be lots to enjoy for all!



GREETINGS & "WOOF!"



from the Pacific Northwest Gordon Setter Club.

Few people outside of the Pacific Northwest are aware of the fact that for over 20 years the Seattle Highland Games Association has been hosting a most unique event – the Celtic Kennel. The kennel is a collection of 10-15 northwest and Celtic dog breed clubs. Sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Gordon Setter Club, we are joined by: the Cascade Cairn Terrier Club, the Cardigan Welsh Corgis, the Cascade Pembroke Welsh Corgi Club, the Evergreen State Shetland Sheepdog Club, the Golden Retrievers, the Irish Water Spaniel Club of Puget Sound, the Overlake Collie Club, the Red and White Irish Setters, the Seattle Irish Setter

Club, the Washington State Scottish Terrier club the Western Washington Hound Club (deer hounds and wolf hounds), and the West Highland White Terrier club of Puget Sound. Maybe someday we will have all 27 of the Scottish, Irish and Welsh breeds.

All totaled, there are some 300+ people who bring their beautiful dogs to participate in our educational activities from: Terriers Going to Ground, to pointing dog demos, agility and fly ball and rally demos, mock dog shows and dogs dancing the highland fling with their owners.

Our main purpose in life is to educate the public about their responsibilities in training their dogs to not only be good citizens, but how im-

portant it is to choose a dog breed that will fit into their families' lifestyle. In other words, don't choose a breed that requires a great deal of activity if you lead a sedentary lifestyle. Too many great dogs wind up in animal shelters because the owners didn't realize all the work required to keep their dog from becoming destructive as an outlet for its natural instincts.

For those of you out there who don't know anything about the Gordon Setters, this dog is Scotland's only native gun dog which had his devoted followers as far back as the 16th century. Formerly called the Gordon Castle Setter, this dog owes its existence to Alexander, the 4th Duke of Gordon who bred the dog in the late 1770's. Daniel Webster and George Blunt imported Rake and Rachel from the

Gordon Castle kennel in 1842, making them the first Gordon Setters to reach the new world.

Perhaps the most abiding memory we have of our beautiful Gordon Setter is the picture of a dozen or so veterans (retired show dogs) at the 2001 National Gordon Setter Club (which was sponsored by our dog club) trotting happily with their owners in a large circle on the misty shores of Dyes Inlet on Puget Sound, while a Gordon Highland Piper stood in the center in full highland regalia while playing "The Gay Gordon's." There wasn't a dry eye in the "house."

Yours Aye,
Ilone and Jim Macduff
Co-chair of the Celtic Kennel
Olympia, Washington



A Short Life — A Lasting Legacy



Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alexander Gordon KCB lived only 29 years. He never married and had no issue, there are no known portraits of him, only the cameo above, and yet his is a legacy that stands out among historians for two simple reasons... the grief felt at his loss by his family and the Duke of Wellington and his uniquely candid letters to his brother, George Hamilton-Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen. Unlike most letters of the time they are not long on personal information, but what they do have is information and observations of daily life at headquarters. They are filled with gossip on those he met both English and French, insights into the battle plans and Wellington's strategy and his own unique thoughts and feelings of the events around him.

The third son of George, Lord Haddo and Charlotte Baird he joined the military and went to war as so many did against Napoleon. In 1808 at the Battle of Corunna he served as Aide-de-Camp (ADC) to his uncle, General, Sir David Baird, 1st Baronet. At Corunna he wrote his brother:

"We are arrived at Coruna with the loss of about 4,000 men by sickness, taken & missing. The French are about two miles from us not in very great force. The Transports are not yet arrived from Vigo. Sir John Moore ought to be hung his conduct has been infamous."

Moore, the same man who established the training regimen which resulted in Britain's first permanent light infantry regiments, and who was known as an exceptionally humane leader. Moore was sent to take command of the British forces on the Iberian Peninsula upon the recall of Burrard, Dalrymple and Wellesley over the treatment of the French troops' evacuation of Portugal. Moore died at the Battle of Corunna, but lived long enough to ensure his victory. The Gordon Highlanders ever after wore black buttons on their spats in perpetual mourning for him.

Shortly thereafter Alexander was transferred to Wellington's headquarters where for the next six years he served as the Duke's Chief ADC. (Do not forget that

Wellesley was cleared at the Court of Enquiry and became the Duke of Wellington.)

Alexander's military career was moving along well. Carrying dispatches to London announcing the victories at Corunna and Ciudad Rodrigo earned him brevet promotions first to Major and then Lieutenant-Colonel. He also served as an emissary to the French Army working to arrange prisoner exchanges and to ensure the good treatment of captured British officers, often bringing them amenities they otherwise would not have been afforded. He made friends among the French officers and in letters mourned the deaths of Generals Graindorge and St. Croix (whom he called "*a great friend of mine and an excellent officer.*") When General Renaud, the French governor of Ciudad Rodrigo, was captured in 1811, he wrote George asking him to assist the General when he arrived in England... of course there was an ulterior motive!

"He is esteemed an excellent officer, and is a very intelligent fellow. He will give you a great deal of information upon our Campaigns here, and of the state of the French Armies in Spain, of the Emperor &c &c. provided you give him enough wine to drink at table. I have made it a point to be very kind to him, as has Lord W.; indeed the civility I have constantly received from the French Army is very great, and the way they all know, and speak of me is something ridiculous."

It pays to be kind, and to know your enemy. The information obtained was invaluable.

In 1814 after Napoleon's exile to Elba he was made a Knight Commander of the Order of Bath (KCB). His was a most promising future.

Then Napoleon escaped from Elba and again the European alliance were at war with France.

At Waterloo Alexander was in the forefront of the battle carrying dispatches for the General. From Wellington's dispatches regarding Quatre Bas and Waterloo we read:

"Our loss was great, as your Lordship will perceive by the enclosed return; and I have particularly to regret His Serene Highness the Duke of Brunswick, who fell fighting gallantly at the head of his troops.

"Although Marshal Blücher had maintained his position at Sombref, he still found himself much weakened by the severity of the contest in which he had been engaged, and, as the 4th corps had not arrived, he determined to fall back and to concentrate his army upon Wavre; and he marched ill the night, after the action was over.

This movement of the Marshal rendered necessary a corresponding one upon my part; and I retired from the farm of Quatre Bras upon Genappe, and thence upon Waterloo, the next morning, the 17th, at ten o'clock.

"The enemy made no effort to pur-

sue Marshal Blücher. On the contrary, a patrol which I sent to Sombréf in the morning found all quiet*; and the enemy's vedettes fell back as the patrol advanced. Neither did he attempt to molest our march to the rear, although made in the middle of the day, excepting by following, with a large body of cavalry brought from his right, the cavalry under the Earl of Uxbridge."

** Lieut. Colonel the Hon. Alexander Gordon was sent, escorted by a squadron of the 10th Hussars, to communicate with the Prussian headquarters, as to cooperation with the British army ordered to retire to the position in front of Waterloo.*

During the battle Alexander was hit in the leg by cannon ball while rallying Brunswickers near La Haye Sainte. He was transported by Sgt-Major Wood of the 30th Foot probably to Mont-Saint Jean farm where he was attended by Dr. Hume, and then transferred to Wellington's headquarters. Dr. Hume wrote:

"I came back from the field of Waterloo with Sir Alexander Gordon, whose leg I was obliged to amputate on the field late in the evening. He died rather unexpectedly in my arms about half-past three in the morning of the 19th. I was hesitating about disturbing the Duke, when Sir Charles Broke-Vere came. He wished to take his orders about the movement of the troops. I went upstairs and tapped gently at the door, when he told me to come in. He had as usual taken off his clothes,

but had not washed himself. As I entered, he sat up in bed, his face covered with the dust and sweat of the previous day, and extended his hand to me, which I took and held in mine, whilst I told him of Gordon's death, and of such of the casualties as had come to my knowledge. He was much affected. I felt the tears dropping fast upon my hand, and looking towards him, saw them chasing one another in furrows over his dusty cheeks. He brushed them suddenly away with his left hand, and said to me in a voice tremulous with emotion, 'Well, thank God, I don't know what it is to lose a battle; but certainly nothing can be more painful than to gain one with the loss of so many of one's friends.'"

Wellington wrote to Alexander's brother to notify him of his death:

"My Dear Lord,

You will readily give me credit to the existence of extreme grief with which I announce to you the death of your gallant brother, in consequence of a wound received in our great battle of yesterday.

He had served me most zealously and usefully for many years, and on many trying occasions; but he had never rendered himself more useful and had never distinguished himself more, than in our late actions.

He received the wound which occasioned his death when rallying one of the Brunswick battalions which was shaking a little; and he had lived long enough to be informed by myself of the glorious result of our actions, to which he had so much

contributed by his active zealous assistance.

I cannot express to you the regret and sorrow with which I look round me, and contemplate the loss with which I have sustained, particularly in your brother. The glory resulting from such actions, so dearly bought, is no consolation to me, and I cannot suggest it as any to you and his friends; but I hope that it may be expected that this last one has been so decisive, as that no doubt remains that our exertions and our individual losses will be rewarded by the early attainment of our just object. It is then the glory of the actions in which our friends and relations have fallen will be some consolation for their loss.

—Believe me &c Wellington,
Bruxelles, 19th June, 1815

(The original is at Haddo House.)

His family was decimated with grief

at his loss. The following year they erected to his memory the first monument on the battlefield, and they regularly repaired it during their lifetime. The poignant message on the column reads:

“Sacred to the memory of Lieut.-Col. The Hon. Sir Alexander Gordon Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath Aide-de Camp to Field-Marshal the Duke of Wellington and also brother to George Earl of Aberdeen

— Who in the twenty-ninth year of his age terminated his short but glorious career on the 18th of June 1815 whilst executing the orders of his great commander in the Battle of Waterloo — Distinguished for gallantry and good conduct in the field he was honoured with repeated



Photo © D. Timmermans napoleon-monuments.eu

marks of approbation by the illustrious hero with whom he shared the dangers of every battle in Spain, Portugal and France and received the most flattering proof of his confidence on many trying occasions. His zeal and activity in the service obtained the reward of ten medals and the honourable distinction of the Order of the Bath. He was justly lamented by the Duke of Wellington in his public dispatch as an officer of high promise and a serious loss for the country. Not less worthy of record for his virtues in private life his unaffected respect for religion his high sense of honour his scrupulous integrity and the most amiable qualities which secure the attachment of his friends and the love of his own

family in testimony of feelings which no language can express ***a disconsolate sister and five surviving brothers have erected this simple memorial to the object of their tenderest affection.***”

The monument bears inscriptions on its base documenting the following restorations: 1837 by his family; 1863 by his brother Admiral the Hon J. Gordon; 1871 and 1888 by his grand nephew John, 7th Earl of Aberdeen. In addition to these repairs the peers of the House of Gordon, the Marquess of Huntly, the Marquess of Aberdeen and Témair, the Duke of Gordon & Richmond, and Lord Stanmore contributed to the restoration of the monument in the 1920's. In 2011 an appeal was made to clean-up and restore the monument which was



overgrown with raspberry bushes and sadly neglected. The Ellon Times interviewed the current Marquess of Aberdeen who stated:

“I visited three or four years ago, and was very disappointed by the state of the monument. I made enquiries about the possibility of getting together a team of my own staff and making repairs to it, but I was told on no uncertain terms that as it is a listed monument, it wouldn't be allowed.

“I do know, however, that there are serious moves afoot to refurbish the whole site, including the Gordon Monument, by Waterloo 200, who are organising the celebration of the 200th anniversary. I am confident that progress is being made.”

His faith was well placed as the restoration began in the fall of 2011 and was completed in 2012.

All through his 7 year career, Alexander exchanged letters with his brother, George Hamilton-Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen. A collection of 196 letters from October 1808–December 1813 were collected and published almost 200 years later by the Army Records Society. Edited by Dr. Rory Muir it goes under the title At Wellington's Right Hand. For any who are interested in military history this is a must on understanding the thought processes of Wellington and his strategies.



Photo © D. Timmermans napoleon-monuments.eu

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Article submitted by Lois Todd

Meet the Slate of Officers



President — Lois Todd of Virginia

Lois is a long-time active member of the House of Gordon having served as the Communications & Scholarship Chair and DNA Fund Liaison for many years. She created and maintains the website and produces the USA newsletter, *In the House!* Her experience with non-profit organizations includes organizing events such as the Hermitage Classic hosting over 2000 student musicians and upwards of 10,000 guests, and the Relay for Life Event in her home town. She also serves as a mentor for the local MCJROTC Unit. She worked for several years in HR and Audit for JCPenney Company. David and Lois live in Richmond; they have three sons, Stephen, Daniel and Aaron, all who have served as US Marines.



Vice President — Evan Rose of California

Evan joined the House of Gordon in high school when writing a research paper on the clan's history (which was later published in a Gordon newsletter, *The Cock's Crow*). Ever since he has been a regular attendee at Scottish gatherings in the Bay Area. Evan traces his Gordon connection through his late grandfather Eddie Gordon.

Evan is a graduate of U.C. Berkeley, and currently works as an attorney for the Federal Trade Commission, a consumer protection agency, in its San Francisco office. He lives in Oakland with his wife Kendra, a high school English teacher.



Secretary — Nikki Gordon Middleton of Illinois

Nikki is a young up and coming lady who has recently been elected as a trustee of finance for her town of Mt. Olive, Illinois.

Nikki has already stepped up to help us out by taking on the interim-secretary position!



Treasurer — Bonnie G. Linse of South Carolina

Bonnie lives in Greenville with her husband Keith and for many years served as treasurer for the Del Norte Community where she helped write the bylaws and handled filing for their non-profit status. She was responsible for setting up and maintaining the ledgers tracking all receipts and expenditures, tracking memberships for both the community and the pool, payroll, all federal and state and organizational

reports. Bonnie and Keith have two sons, two grandchildren and three step-grandchildren.



**Director at Large
— John Lowry of
California**

John is a retired insurance executive and past president of the House of Gordon USA. A long-time board member and

staunch supporter of a united House of Gordon USA, he brings a depth of knowledge and continuity to the House that is invaluable. He is also the founder and Chief of the Seaside Highland Games in Ventura, one of the largest games in the USA.



**Director at Large
— Lucretia
Gordon of
Tennessee**

Lu received training as an archeologist and was involved in a number of excavations at Williamsburg, VA, and has been

involved in the House of Gordon for most of her life. She is the former Convener for the USA Branch of the House of Gordon, having taken that position on from her father, Charles O. Gordon. She has been a board member since the re-incorporation as a 501C(3) non-profit in the USA and brings much knowledge and experience to the board that strengthens our clan society as a whole.

AGM Agenda

- Call to Order
- Election of Officers
- Reading of the Chief's Greeting
- Reading and approval of the 2012 AGM Minutes
- Reports:
 - President's Report
 - Treasurer's Report on the funds received, paid-out and financial state of the organization.
 - Membership Report
 - Convener's Chair Report
 - Communications Chair Report
 - Scholarship Chair Report
 - DNA Project Report
- Items of Business:
 - Discussion of Scottish Charity
 - Discussion of DNA Project Funding
 - Discussion of Goals for 2014
 - Call for any other new business to be discussed and motions to their disposition as it may pertain.
- Meeting Adjourned.

AGM Proxy

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers
2. Scottish Charity and the Charles O. Gordon Scholarship Program
3. To discuss such other business as may properly come before the meeting

VOTING BY PROXY Please submit the Proxy as soon as possible so that your opinions may be voiced at the meeting in accordance with your instructions. The Proxy must be received by July 3, 2013 at the address shown below. You may submit your Proxy (1) by mail, or (2) over the internet (by attaching a signed pdf Proxy to secretary@houseofgordonusa.org).

- - - - -

I, _____ being a member in good standing of the **House of Gordon USA**, do hereby waive my right to appear in person at the AGM, scheduled for July 13, 2013, and further grant a proxy to _____ (If no individual named, I grant my proxy to the executive board) to vote on my behalf on such matters as may be required.

1. I instruct my Proxy to vote for the slate of officers as named below unless otherwise instructed in section three below.
2. I instruct my Proxy to use their best judgment on all matters which properly come before the membership at the AGM except as specified below.
3. I instruct my proxy to vote as specified below and/or to bring forward the following business before the membership for consideration:

Slate of Officers:

Lois Todd — President	Bonnie G. Linse — Treasurer
Evan Rose — Vice President	John Lowry — Director
Nikki Gordon Middleton — Secretary	Lucretia Gordon — Director

This Proxy must be signed and received by July 3, 2013.

Date _____ Membership Number (if known) _____

Signature _____

Mail to: House of Gordon USA 6890 Deepwater Cv. Mt. Olive, IL 62069

Officers

HOUSE OF GORDON USA

Interim Secretary-	Nikki Middleton	secretary@houseofgordonusa.org
Treasurer-	Nellie Lowry	treasurer@houseofgordonusa.org
Directors at Large-		
	Lucretia Gordon	Lucretia@houseofgordonusa.org
	John Lowry	john@houseofgordonusa.org
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