

From the Editor

If you happen to be playing a game of trivia, you might ask someone to define "tattoo." Chances are good that that the word tattoo will be defined as 'an artistic rendering of colored pigmentation on someone's body affixed by use of a needle that pricks the skin leaving an indelible image or saying.' But not so fast my friend!

The article by Commander John Thor Ewing on page 1 gives yet another meaning of the word, which many might never guess. The great thing about *this* Tattoo is that any Ewing can be a part of it as they participate in a time-honored Scottish tradition.

If you have not yet experienced a Scottish Festival, think about attending an event like one of those described by our new Chancellor, Beth Ewing Toscos, in her message on page 2.

Many of us are enjoying kinship with Ewings we have never previously met in a wide range of activities at these events. On the horizon, some of us are also already looking forward to making the trip to Scotland in 2018 or 2019 (more details on that to follow in future *Journals* and Newsletters) to select our clan Chief – something that has not happened in roughly 500 years!

As always, it's a great time to be a Ewing.

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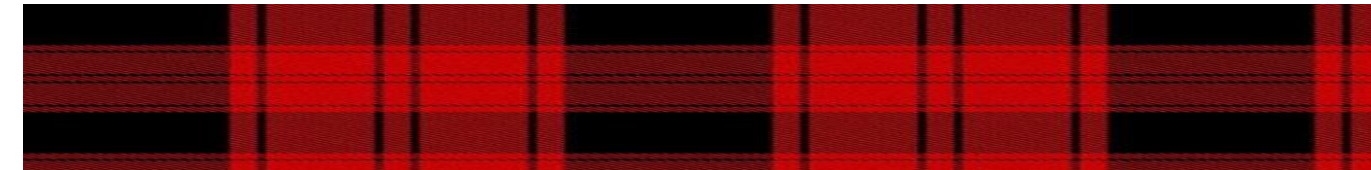
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TWO WAYS TO RENEW
YOUR MEMBERSHIP!
Via PayPal on our website:
www.ewingfamilyassociation.org
OR
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Ewing Family Association Newsletter is published two times a year.
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Ewing Family Association



February
2017

Newsletter



Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2017

Next August will see another Clan Ewing event in Scotland, as we are privileged to have been invited to participate as a clan in the Edinburgh Royal Military Tattoo on Tuesday, August 6, 2017. The Tattoo is widely regarded as one of the greatest shows on Earth, and attracts sell-out crowds year after year. We will be sharing this evening with Clan MacPherson, under the leadership of their chief, Sir William Macpherson of Cluny and Blairgowrie.

Clansfolk will gather before the show in rooms on the Royal Mile (probably in the Lord Provost's official rooms). The kilted and tartan-clad clans will then parade onto the Castle Esplanade, in view of the entire Tattoo audience; the chiefs or commanders then take a dram with the presiding Pipe Major, and thereafter, accompany the official Salute-taker throughout the evening. As well as a spectacular show the audience will be invited to come dressed in their Clan, Family or group tartan or just one that they like wearing.

If you'd like to take part, it makes sense to book well before the final deadline. Ticket prices are likely to range from £25 to £70 for standard seats, with more exclusive options also available. More information should be available at: www.edintattoo.co.uk.

Please contact Thor for details via email at thor@thorewing.net, and a number of tickets will remain reserved for clan use until March 1, 2017, after which they will be released for general sale.



Chancellor's Message

2017 promises a number of activities that will give all interested Ewings opportunities to gather, share, and celebrate. We anticipate a return to the **Saline Celtic Festival** on July 8th and 9th in Saline, Michigan. August will see the first ever inclusion of Ewing clan folk at the **Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo** in Scotland (see page 1). And, a return is planned to the **Scottish Highland Gathering & Games in Pleasanton, California** in early September. Additional details will be included in the May Journal. Heritage events like those listed are great ways to introduce younger generations of Ewings to a colorful period in our ancestry, complete with music, games, and plenty of tartan!

Speaking of younger generations, the Clan Ewing Facebook page has just over 500 members with a similar number viewing the Ewing Family Association website. We are hearing from and sharing with kin around the world.

Webmaster Martin Ewing has placed multiple years of the *Journal's* Tables of Contents online at www.ewingfamilyassociation.org, which aids independent research. If you find a reference in this listing and would like to access a copy of a specific article, please contact our co-editors John and Denise Ewing at johnewing2003@msn.com. We retain past copies of *Journals* and can also direct you to a library near you that houses copies of our publications.

One last suggestion: If you haven't ordered a tartan scarf, tie, kilt, or tam, please consider doing so. Commander Thor Ewing designed an arresting tartan based on information from the 1610 will of John Ewing in Heiddykis of Kirkmichael. Scotland's Lochcarron Weavers have created our tartan in two different fabric weights. Contact Thor at tartans@clanewing.uk to start your order.

Audaciter!
Beth Ewing Toscos



A Word from the Commander



Dear Clansfolk and Cousins,
From the perspective of early 2017, the last year seems surprisingly distant. More seems to have changed in the world during the last 12 months than usual.

For the clan, 2016 has been a good year. It has included a very successful EFA Gathering at Saline, Michigan, organized by Walter 'Major' Ewing, a clan tent at Pleasanton, California, organized by Larry Ewing, and a small Scottish meeting at Strathleven House, Dumbarton.

I also attended my first meeting of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs in Edinburgh, which has led to our inclusion as one of the featured clans at this year's Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo (our night is Tuesday 8th August 2017; please contact me on thor@thorewing.net for further details if you'd like to attend).

In June, I published my notes and commentary to R. S. T. MacEwen's 1904 book, "Clan Ewen: Some records of Its History" (ISBN: 978-1910075043). I hope this will go some way to clearing up many errors and confusions surrounding the history of our clan. I'd like to thank the many clansfolk who have bought a copy—and also for the positive reviews on Amazon.

At some point in the future, I hope to write a more straightforward history of our clan, but this would not be possible without having first dispelled some unhelpful myths which originated in MacEwen's book.

I've now also tied up a few remaining loose ends, with the publication of "The Erracht Feud: Internal Divisions in Clan Cameron 1567-77." Though not strictly relevant to Ewing history, the Camerons, who took part in this feud, were all misidentified as part of our clan by R. S. T. MacEwen, and I found myself drawn ever more deeply into this formative period in Cameron history. I'm pleased to note, the new book has been very warmly received by Donald Cameron of Lochiel XXVII, Chief of Clan Cameron.

Finally, I'd like to say 'Thank you' to Wally Ewing for his role as chancellor from which he stepped down last year, and to welcome Beth Ewing Toscos to the role. Beth has certainly hit the ground running, and I look forward to further achievements in the coming years.

Wishing you all the best for 2017,

Thor

Welcome New EFA Members!

Delilia Werner, #1217
Warner Robins, GA

Clarice A. Coffman, #1218
Peoria, IL

Michael Jones, #1219
Baltimore, MD



Did you know . . . ?

. . . . At the first clan gathering (1988), one of the members had 10 flags made to be sold there. I believe they sold for \$90. My father bought one for me. In the photo (left), my granddaughter, Audrey Ewing, and I are holding the flag. I was never able to identify the member who brought them. The flag is lovely and well made.

William Myrl Ewing (Member #166)

Ewing Tartan Cloth / Ready-Made Garments

The Ewing tartan, woven by Lochcarron of Scotland is exquisitely made, and several EFA members have purchased these beautiful pieces. It is unique and distinctive, reflecting our history and tradition. You can order cloth or ready-made garments by email from tartans@clanewing.uk.

Currently, all garments are made in 13oz Medium Weight 'Braeriach' tartan fabric; the pattern repeats every 6 1/4 inches or slightly more. All prices below are listed in Pounds Sterling (GBP) and subject to change. – Please check the current exchange rate to convert to other currencies.

Cloth @ £49/metre (£45/yard)

NB because the cloth is woven to double width, the amount needed for an 8 yard kilt is usually equivalent to 4 yards (3.7m). Be sure to ask your kilt maker before placing your order.

Shawl (57" x 57" / 145 x 145cm) @ £70

Kilt (8 yard full) @ £350

Kilt (5 yard casual) @ £210

Fly Plaid @ £64

Neck Tie @ £20

Ladies' Sash @ £30

Tam o' Shanter @ £22

Mini Skirt @ £108

Semi-Kilted Skirt @ £162

Fiona Skirt @ £132

Billie Skirt @ £91

Mini Fly @ £36

Waistcoat @ £99

Edinburgh Cape @ £170

Kilted Skirt @ £128

Hostess Skirt @ £172

Laura Skirt @ £100

Child's Skirt/Kilt @ £70 - £88

(children's sizes only, as set by manufacturer)

