

ROBERTSON'S RANT

The Newsletter of the Clan Donnachaidh Society—Mid-Atlantic Branch



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VIRGINIA SCOTTISH GAMES REPORT

by Jim Fargo

The beginning of the second half of our Branch's Games Season saw our clan tents go up at Great Meadows this past Labor Day weekend (August 30-31). **Robert Knight** and I were pleased to arrive on Saturday morning for the 51st annual Virginia Scottish Games. After putting up our two tents next to our sister clan, House of Gordon, and arranging our flags and tables, Robert and I were joined by President **Sam Kistler**, **Evan Duncan** and **Adam Duncan** to help us get ready for the 9am opening of the games. We are happy to report that **Alexandra (Alex) Duncan** is the new president of the VSGA.

As in past years, we were situated at the usual end of our clan row with a combined four-tent frontage with the Gordons. The entertainment tent was about 50 feet from the clan site and was an ideal place for both listening to the celtic music and watching the athletic competitions. The fall October weather was perfect for this August weekend with temperatures in the mid-70s both days.

The athletic events began on Saturday, with none of our clan athletes on the field. On Sunday, **Charles Kyle** was on hand as our clan competitor and at closing we knew that he had taken 3rd in the caber toss competition. On Sunday, the competition began for our clan sponsored Open Second Place Fiddling Trophy (in memory of Ronald Duncan Gonnella). The fiddle results were not known prior to our leaving at 6pm. **Christine McLain** who won our trophy several years ago stopped by at the end of the day to report that the competition was still ongoing.

Sunday's weather was just the same as Saturday, just perfect. There was a clan parade on Saturday with six of us marching. On Sunday we fielded eleven. On both days we presented our clan war cry "Fierce When Roused" as we went by the reviewing stand. Sunday's attendance was about the same as Saturday with many of our regular clanfolk and visitors returning. Special thanks to **Don** and

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Branch Officers

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Sam Kistler

Vice President:

Tom Due

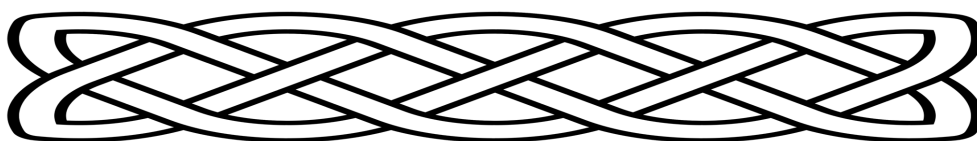
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VIRGINIA SCOTTISH GAMES REPORT (CONTINUED)

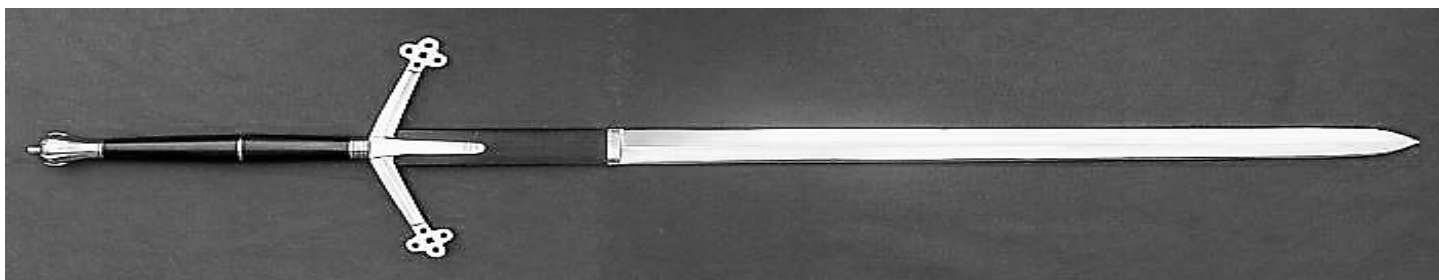
Mary Alice Behe, Adam Duncan, Evan Duncan, Dan Fouse, Steve Hoffman, Ern Malcolm and Jerry and Ann Vandenberg and all the 'regulars' from other clans who stopped by to visit with us over both days. Also, I'd like to thank the seven newest members of our clan: **Kathy Dalrymple, Angela Groenhout, Susan Hobson, David Lipscomb, Chris Reid, Jennifer Treger and Judy Wallace.**

As usual we combined our Donnachaidh Diner with the Gordon Grill and everyone in both clans and guests were well fed. My thanks to the Gordon conveners, **Angie and Rob Nash**, and to everyone for bringing victuals and drinks to support our joint Donnachaidh Diner/Gordon Grill team. We enjoyed breakfast and lunch on both days under our combined tents again this year.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the 52nd Virginia Scottish Games at Great Meadows on September 5-6, 2026.



Clan Donnachaidh at the Virginia Scottish Games. August 2025.



COVENANTER SCOTTISH FESTIVAL & HIGHLAND GAMES REPORT

by Norman Dunkinson

The 12th annual Covenanter Scottish Festival and Highland Games was held at the site of the Covenanter Presbyterian Church in Quarryville, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on Saturday, September 6, 2025. This is an oddly incongruous event with Amish horse & buggies travelling the road above the games field amid the tartan and the skirl of the pipes.

There were 17 clans and societies in attendance, with most of the conveners being “regulars” here. Clan Montgomery hosted a small hospitality tent with coffee and pastries for the conveners as we set up during the morning. The Donnachaidh tent was positioned between MacDougall and Gregor in the center of clan row with a great view of the athletic field. A highlight of this event is the female athletic competition - more fun to watch, in my opinion, than the guys that one sees at every games. Throughout the day, visitors were also offered tours of the Octorara Covenanter Presbyterian Church, dating back to 1754.

The Address to the Haggis took place at 10:45am, followed by opening ceremonies and the clan march at 11:30am. Though I was the sole representative for Donnachaidh and many clans had multiple participants, my “Fierce When Roused” and John Cowan’s “Victory or Death” – the MacDougall war cry – were recognized as the loudest and someone in the crowd recommended a “shout off” between John and I. The ceremonies had to continue, however, so I

stowed our banner momentarily to play photographer for **Peter Gregg** of Clan Gregor during his presentation of an award to a fellow clan member. Outside of this, much of my day was spent helping visitors find their clan affiliation as, alas, there were no visitors with Donnachaidh surnames. A piper by the name of Sorley, however, visited the tent and noted how he had visited the Donnachaidh tent at the Virginia Games and was appreciative of the great hospitality shown. At the end of the day, Clan Murray was recognized for best clan tent presentation.

While this is certainly a very small game, it still has all of the events one expects from a highland game, and our central Pennsylvania members in particular are encouraged to visit and give it a try in 2026.

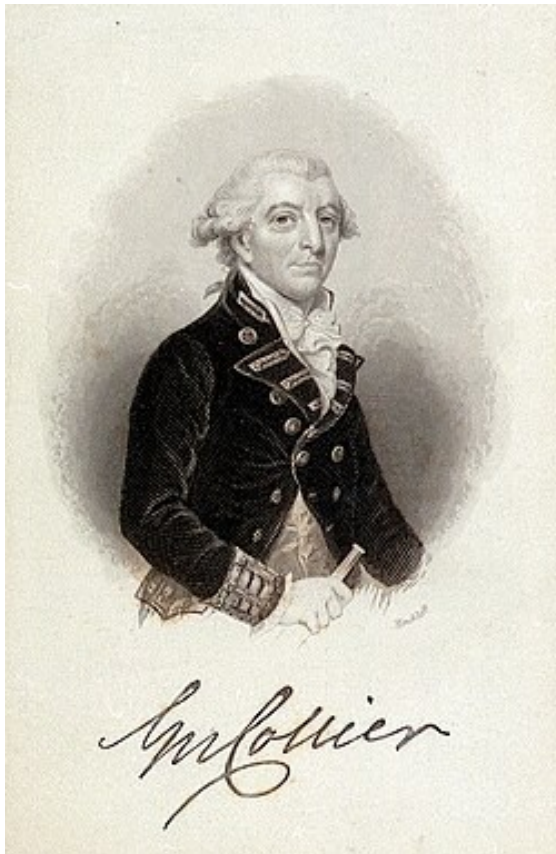


Left to Right: Sam Kistler, Robert Knight, and Jim Fargo at the Wild & Wonderful Celtic Festival. Beverly, West Virginia. June 21, 2025.

ROBERTSON'S RANT

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR GEORGE COLLIER (1732—1795)

By James E. Fargo, FSA Scot



Vice-Admiral Sir George Collier. From https://military-history.fandom.com/wiki/George_Collier.

George Collier was born on 11 May 1732 to George and Henrietta Collier and baptized in Westminster, London. He entered the Royal Navy in 1751 and was appointed lieutenant in 1754 after passing the required examination. Serving in the East Indies during the Seven Years' War, he was promoted to commander in August 1761 and then to post-captain in July 1762 with the command of the frigate HMS 'Boulogne'. Prior to the outbreak of war with the American colonies, he was conferred a knighthood in 1775 for services in the North American station and given command of 44-gun frigate HMS 'Rainbow' and set sail for North America in May 1776.

On 16 August, 1776, the Battle of Brooklyn, the biggest battle (numerically) of the American Revolution began. Led by British General William Howe, 19,000 British and Hessian troops were ferried over to Long Island, New York. The American defenders, led by General George Washington numbered 8,000 strong. The initial British assaults were successful in driving the American militia defenders back from the outer breastworks in a jumbled rearguard action to the more substantial defenses of the Town of Brooklyn. This presented an opportunity for the British to finish off the Americans by storming those positions, capturing the panicked Continental Army and taking control over all of Long Island. Unexpectedly, the British did not attack as General Howe ordered a halt to the advance and began a formal siege. Two days later, the entire American army safely crossed the East River

and escaped. This decision possibly changed the course of the war.

Historians agree that General Howe missed the chance to strike a decisive blow. British officers under Howe's command were outraged by the failure to attack. This anger was expressed by Sir George Collier, captain of the HMS 'Rainbow' anchored off Long Island. He stated, "The Americans, frightened, defeated, and dismayed, were pursued to the edge of a ditch of a temporary work they had thrown up, into which the victorious troops would have entered with them, had they not been constrained by the most positive orders of the General. The retreat was sounded, and the conquering army halted. Their ardour was, by this means, cruelly checked; and one of the most glorious opportunities for ending the rebellion lost."

Collier was subsequently sent to Halifax, Nova Scotia where he captured the 32-gun frigate USS 'Hancock' on 8 July 1777, then followed up in August by destroying American supplies in Maine thus ruining American plans for an invasion of Nova Scotia. In April 1779 Collier was promoted to commodore and acting commander-in-chief of the North American Station and hoisted his flag aboard the 64-gun HMS "Raisonné" in New York City. Collier carried out the

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CAPTAIN SIR GEORGE RALPH COLLIER (1772—1824)

By James E. Fargo, FSA Scot

Born in London in June 1772 to Ralph and Henrietta Maria (Jackson) Collier. His father was the Chief Clerk of the Naval Victualing Board and young ten-year old George (thanks to his father) began education at the Chelsea Maritime Academy and his naval career as a captain's servant in January 1784 to gain seniority before becoming a midshipman in January 1787 aboard the frigate HMS 'Carysfort'. Promoted to master and commander of the 18-gun sloop HMS 'Victor' in October 1799, he escorted convoys of troop transports and supply ships to help defeat the French land forces in Egypt. After a successful capture of the 22-gun French corvette 'Fleche' in September 1801 which subsequently sank, he was promoted to post-captain by First Lord of the Admiralty Earl St. Vincent and given command of the 50-gun HMS 'Leopard' in 1802. With the Peace of Amiens, he moved ashore (1803-1806) commanding the Sea Fencibles at Liverpool and married Maria Lyon on 18 May 1805. They had no children.

In February 1806, he received command of the 32-gun HMS 'Minerva' and patrolled the Spanish and Portuguese coasts working closely with the British generals fighting the Peninsular War. Collier received a knighthood on 19 September 1807. In March 1809, he gave passage on the 38-gun HMS 'Surveillante' to Lieutenant-General Sir Arthur Wellesley and his staff to Portugal. Collier was wounded on 1 August 1812 in an attack to force the French out of the port city of Santander and its castle of Ano on the northern coast of the Iberian Peninsula.

During the War of 1812, Collier received command of a squadron assigned to hunt down and neutralize American frigates. Collier, as captain of HMS 'Leander' came close to capturing the USS 'Constitution' ("Old Ironsides") in 1815 but failed after it slipped out in the fog and escaped the British blockade of Boston Harbor. He hunted her down to the Cape Verde Islands, but on 11 March she eluded his squadron again and escaped. During the years of peace following the Napoleonic Wars, he was rewarded with a baronetcy on 20 September 1814 by the Prince Regent and was awarded a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath on 2 January 1815.

Collier returned to active service from September 1818 to 1821 as Commodore of the West Africa Squadron, consisting of an initial six ships to patrol 3,000 miles of African coastline charged with the impossible task of suppression of the slave trade with the 36-gun HMS 'Tartar' as his flagship.

William James, a London lawyer turned naval historian, published a six-volume "Naval History of Great Britain, 1793-1827" in 1823 which singled out Collier for his failure to capture the 44-gun frigate USS 'Constitution' after it escaped from Boston Harbor during the War of 1812. The book basically accused Captain Collier of incompetence and cowardice. Collier, his honor and reputation in tatters, became severely depressed over these accusations and died by suicide on 24 March 1824 in his rooms at the Gordon Hotel, Albermarle Street in London. The subsequent Naval inquest determined him to be suffering from temporary mental derangement.



Captain Sir George Ralph Collier. From <https://artuk.org/discover/artworks/captain-sir-george-ralph-coller-17741824-172585>.

References: Multiple Wikipedia searches.

ROBERTSON'S RANT

SCOTS HUMOR

A London barrister arrived at a traditional family hotel outside of Pitlochry for a restful vacation in the highlands. As he registered with the desk clerk, she mentioned that at this hotel, "He would be awakened by the call of the rooster." "Very good", replied the barrister. "Please tell him 9 o'clock."

A young man is standing at an intersection in Glasgow playing the bagpipes for tips. An old woman walks up to him and asks "What did you do with the money?" "What money?" he replies. "The money your parents gave you for the bagpipe lessons."

WOOD RIDGE FARM & BREWERY CELTIC FESTIVAL GAMES REPORT

By Jim Fargo

Saturday morning, September 20th, we arrived in Lovington, VA for the second annual Wood Ridge Farm & Brewery Celtic Festival. Son **Andrew** and I had the clan tent set up by 8:30 and were joined by Clan Ross. We were the only two clans along the clan row, same as last year. There was no clan parade. We were joined by two vendors of Scottish merchandise that were different from the two last year. There were none of the usual Scottish food vendors present as the host Farm and Brewery have food and beverages available within their dining complex. Their food (pizza and burgers) was excellent.

My personal highlight of the day was Andrew getting a new acrylic Red Robertson kilt as he is allergic to the wool in his weathered Hunting Robertson kilt.

We were very busy killing Spotted Lantern Flies throughout the day. We were not very busy fielding visitor questions as the vast majority of the visitors were mainly friends and family there to watch the athletes. We did assist visitors along with help from **Jack Williams**, a clan Gordon 'cousin', in determining their clan affiliation when they did visit the clan row. After checking their historic family names, we directed them to the two vendors to see examples of their tartan. Again, there was little advance notice within the Scottish community (other than the athletic community) as this event appears to be geared just toward athletics.

There were well over 60 athletes participating on the field presided over by the VSGA judges from Labor Day weekend led by **Alex Duncan**. We enjoyed watching the various competitions from our end of the field. This year we had a young lady, **Sarah Reid**, from Wildwood, Georgia competing in the competitions. She came with her husband (**Rhett Rutherford**) and they were joined by her aunt and uncle, **Deb** and **Greg Reid** from Midlothian. Sarah reported Sunday morning that she came in 4th overall with a first in lightweight for distance. Rhett came in 1st overall and cleared 37 feet in the sheaf toss in their respective competitions.

The Shenandoah Valley Pipe Band, consisting of four pipers and a base drummer, were here again this year and performed throughout the afternoon. At my request they played the "Atholl Highlanders" pipe tune several times during the day as they marched around the festival site.

Around 4 pm, being the only clan tent remaining, we packed up and departed the festival site as the athletic competitions continued. This location is perfect for having festivals and hopefully there will be a third festival next year with more clans in attendance.

RADFORD HIGHLANDERS FESTIVAL GAMES REPORT

By Jim Fargo

On Saturday October 11th, the clan van arrived at Moffet Field on the Radford University campus for the annual Radford Highlanders Festival. Robert Knight and I quickly set up our two-tent layout between the Roanoke Valley Scottish Society and clan Blair. We missed last year's festival due to my rotator cuff shoulder injury, so it was great being back!

Robert and I assisted many visitors that stopped by to research their surnames and determine which clan(s) they would be eligible to join. Helping visitors find their clan affiliation is what I truly enjoy! The clan parade began around noon with the various clans mixed between the four pipe bands as we paraded onto the athletic field for the opening ceremonies. First clan visitors of the day were **Tonya Majors** and her husband who arrived before the noon parade. Tonya put on her new clan t-shirt and joined yours truly in the parade.

Throughout the day we listened to celtic rock music performed by Tartan Terrors and **Ally the Piper**. Just like in 2023 when "Didgeri-Drew Reid" from Albannach stopped by the clan tent to sign in, this year Ally the Piper stopped by our tent to chat with us along with her drummer. She is a Duncan from our North East Branch of the clan. Unfortunately, all of our clanfolk were away from the clan tent visiting the vendors when she came by, so only Ripley and I were there for the photo taken by her drummer. Current members **John and Karen Duncan, Ern Malcolm** and our clan piper **Ripley Williams** from the Radford University Pipe Band were there for most of the day and helped us pack up the van at the end of the day.

We had many visitors during the day including prospective members: **Kyndall Duncan, Thomas Duncan, James (Roberts) Hampton, Crystal (Duncan)** and son **Aston Lane, Jennifer (Robertson) Lucas, Tonya (Duncan) Majors, Melissa (Duncan) Martignoni, Tim Robb, Ashley Roberts, and Dave (Duncan) Wannenburg**. Several bought our clan t-shirt and hopefully all will join our clan society and come back next year.

Highly recommend this festival for the variety of events and activities ranging from seeing the highland athletics on the main field, highland cattle, sheep herding, children's activities and a wide mix of vendors and eateries. On our way home, enjoyed listening to two of Ally's CDs.

I'd like to encourage more of our clanfolk to come out and join us for next year's one-day Radford Homecoming Highlander Festival on Saturday October 10, 2026.



Ally the Piper at the Radford Highlanders Festival. October 11, 2025.

ROBERTSON'S RANT

CEUD MILE FAILTE—100,000 WELCOMES!

We'd like to welcome the following new and returning members who joined or renewed since the last report:

Kathy C. Dalrymple	John J. Duncan	Catherine M. Erickson	Angela P. Groenhout
Susan C. Hobson	David Lipscomb	Ern A. Malcolm Jr.	Carolyn R. Orr
Mark Reed	Christopher Reid	Jamie A. Roberts	Candace Robertson
Donald R. Stark	Jennifer L. Treger	Judy L. Wallace	



Jim and Andrew Fargo at the Wood Ridge Farm & Brewery Celtic Festival. September 20, 2025.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR GEORGE COLLIER (1732-1795) (CONTINUED)

successful raid on Hampton Roads, Virginia on 9 May and for two weeks, his 2,000 troops destroyed ships, munitions and supplies meant for the Colonial army. Returning to New York, his fleet supported British army raids on Connecticut ports until learning of a combined American land and sea assault on Fort George in Penobscot Bay, Maine. Collier commanded a relief fleet to attack the Americans between 24 July-16 August 1779 and destroyed the American fleet of 19 armed and 25 transport and provision vessels while capturing four of those armed vessels. This was the United States' worst defeat at sea until Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. Collier was recalled to England and after participating in the relief of Gibraltar in 1781 after which while returning to England, he captured the 44-gun Spanish frigate "Leocadia". After resigning his commission, he entered politics and was elected a Member of Parliament in 1784. From his second marriage in 1781 to Elizabeth Fryer, he had two daughters and four sons. Two of the sons entered the Army and two the Navy. One of his sons, Francis Augustus Collier, like his father also achieved the flag rank of rear admiral. Collier returned to the sea in 1790 and was promoted to rear-admiral in February 1793, then promoted to vice-admiral of the blue in July 1794. Vice-Admiral Sir George Collier died in London on 6 April 1795.

References:

Nelson, James L., *"With Fire and Sword"*, Thomas Dunne Books, New York, 2011, p. 19.

Multiple Wikipedia searches.

WHO WAS LORD BENHOLME(1795—1874)?

By James E. Fargo, FSA Scot

On page 63 of the referenced clan history book, Lord Benholme is mentioned as a distinguished clansman.

Hercules James Robertson was born in Edinburgh on 13 October 1795 to George and Isabella (nee Scott) Robertson. He was educated at the Royal High School and then studied law at the University of Edinburgh. He was called to the Scottish bar in 1817.



He married Anne Wilhelmina Hope in July 1829 and they had four sons and two daughters. They lived at 76 Great King Street, Edinburgh. Anne was the youngest daughter of Charles Hope, Lord Granton, a member of Parliament for Edinburgh from 1803-1805 and Lord President of Court of Sessions from 1811-1841.

Robertson was an advocate and served as sheriff of Renfrewshire in 1842 the same year his wife died. In 1853 he was appointed a Lord of Session within the College of Justice in Scotland. Senators of the College used the judicial courtesy title of Lord or Lady along with a surname or territorial name. Robertson assumed the judicial title of Lord Benholme after his mother's Kincardineshire family seat.

Lord Benholme died on 15 September 1874.

References:

Robertson, James, "Chiefs of Clan Donnachaidh 1275-1749", Perth, 1929, p. 58.

Multiple Wikipedia searches.

Clan Donnachaidh at the Wild & Wonderful Celtic Festival, Beverley, West Virginia. June 21, 2025.

ROBERTSON'S RANT

INVASION OF ATHOLL—1644

By James E. Fargo, FSA Scot

The Royalist army of King Charles I led by Prince Rupert, nephew of the King, was defeated at the battle of Marston Moor on July 2, 1644 six miles west of York, England.

A planned Irish rising of 10,000 men to support the King led by the Earl of Antrim, had failed to arrive. Weeks later in early July, a force of 1,600 men landed on the Ardnamurchan coast of Argyll led by Alastair, son of MacDonald of Colonsay, and a kinsman of Antrim. Known by his nickname 'Colkitto', this MacDonald chieftain led a campaign of fire and sword along the Argyll coast but none of the clans he expected support from joined him. This was due to Earl Archibald Campbell of Argyll's repressive Covenanter regime. Lacking support, Colkitto headed north-eastward after sending an urgent plea to the Marquis of Montrose for assistance as Argyll's men had destroyed his fleet of ships cutting off his escape route.

Around this same time, James Graham, the Marquis of Montrose, returned to Scotland after the Royalist army's defeat at Marston Moor. Finding safety from Argyll's Covenanter supporters with his kinsman, Patrick 'Black Pate' Graham in his remote home, Tullybelton, he began to raise a new royalist army to support the King. Armed with the King's commission, and as high chief of his clan, he raised the Grahams while Black Pate traveled north into Atholl to visit his sister, mother of his infant nephew, Alexander Robertson of Struan, 12th chief of Clan Donnachaidh and raise manpower for Montrose.

Montrose arrived in the wide vale of the Garry on 18 August to find the grounds of Blair Castle filled with armed men. Through some miscommunication, Colkitto had brought all his men with him from Badenoch through the pass of Dalnaspidal to a secret meeting with Montrose in Atholl. While waiting for Montrose to arrive, he had to find provisions for his men, so he captured the castle and the young Earl of Atholl. The local Atholl clan lairds had gathered their manpower and surrounded the castle while the call went out and more Athollmen streamed in from outlying areas to seek vengeance on the invaders and rescue the young earl.

Thankfully at this point, Montrose arrived and by standing between the two opposing forces calmed the situation. Colkitto agreed to serve under Montrose and freed the young Earl. The next day, Montrose joined by the young earl and our young clan chief unfurled the King's royal standard in a field where the River Garry and the River Tilt met. The Robertson clansmen were under the command of the chief's uncle Donald Robertson, known as the "Tutor of Strowan." Around 800 Athollmen (Robertsons and Stewarts) joined Montrose's army and united with other recruitment efforts among Clan Graham and Colkitto's men, the Royalist forces numbered around 2,700 when they left Atholl heading southward toward Loch Tay then toward Lord Elcho's Covenanter army of about 7,000 infantry and 700 horse that was looking for Colkitto's Irishmen around Perth. On September 1, 1644, the armies met three miles outside of Perth. The result was Montrose's first victory for King Charles I, known as the Battle of Tippermuir.

References:

Robertson, James, *"Chiefs of Clan Donnachaidh 1275-1749"*, Perth, 1929, p. 53.

Tranter, Nigel, *"The Young Montrose"*, Coronet Books, London, 1972, pp. 283-316.

JOHN RILEY DUNCAN (1850—1911)

By James E. Fargo, FSA Scot

John Riley “Jack” Duncan was born on September 25, 1850, to James and Katherine Duncan in a small farming community in Hardin County, Kentucky. He and his brothers tended the family farm while his father served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. After the war, the family moved to Texas and settled in the vicinity of Dallas. Jack and his father were employed as butchers while another of his brothers was in the land business. Jack joined the Dallas police force in October 1876 and soon acquired the reputation as an effective investigative lawman. Jack was recruited into the Texas Rangers in July 1877 specifically to work undercover and track down John Wesley Hardin, a notorious criminal.

Hardin was wanted in Texas for having killed deputy sheriff Webb of Brown County Texas in May 1874. To escape justice, Hardin moved to the Florida panhandle and changed his name to John H. Swain. On January 10, 1875, the Texas legislature voted a reward of \$4,000 for Hardin, “delivered within the jail house door of Travis County.” Seeking to avoid bounty hunters and Pinkerton agents, Hardin moved back and forth between Alabama and Florida. Ranger Jack Duncan was successful in finding an address for Hardin and joined by Lieutenant John Armstrong, they boarded an eastbound train to Pensacola. There they were joined by the local sheriff of Escambia County and his deputies. As Hardin was boarding a train in the Pensacola station for Whiting, Alabama, on August 23, 1877, the lawmen pounced. Hardin was delivered to the Travis County jail in Texas on the morning of August 28, 1877. Hardin was convicted and served 17 years in prison for his many crimes.

After the capture of Hardin, Duncan ended his service with the Texas Rangers in November 1877. This was probably because he had received his share of the \$4,000 reward paid for Hardin’s capture. The lucrative rewards for the capture of wanted criminals encouraged Duncan to become a bounty hunter.

Duncan was a successful bounty hunter, and collected rewards of over \$12,000 from the capture of twenty-one criminals during this phase of his career. On October 20, 1884, he married Emma Jane Bowles and they had four children.

On November 16, 1911, Jack Duncan died from injuries suffered in an automobile accident south of Dallas. He is buried in the historic Greenwood Cemetery in Dallas. His tombstone reads: “Dallas Policeman, Texas Ranger, and Dallas Detective, Got Wes Hardin, August 23, 1877.”

References:

Utey, Robert M., *“Lone Star Justice”*, Oxford University Press, 2002, pp. 173-175.

Multiple Wikipedia searches.



John Riley Duncan. From <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/9843/john-riley-duncan>.



CLAN DONNACHAIDH SOCIETY MID-ATLANTIC BRANCH

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The Clan Donnachaidh Society is a world-wide organization dedicated to the preservation of our Highland heritage. Membership is open to those persons bearing recognized sept surnames and their descendants and spouses.

Membership in the parent Clan Donnachaidh Society in Scotland includes a subscription to the Clan Donnachaidh Annual.

Membership in the Mid-Atlantic Branch of the Clan Donnachaidh Society includes a subscription to the Branch newsletter, Robertson's Rant, published quarterly and containing listings of Highland Games and Celtic Festivals throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, Game and Festival reports, historical and biographical articles, and news items of interest to Donnachaidhs everywhere. Membership also includes an open invitation to join your fellow society members at the Clan Donnachaidh Tent and Diner at numerous Games and Festivals, and at other activities including the annual Scottish Christmas Walk and Clan Donnachaidh luncheon in the Old Town section of Alexandria, Virginia, in early December.

Parent Society membership dues are \$25.00 per year (individual) and \$35.00 per year (family = two persons/same address). Mid-Atlantic Branch membership dues are \$20.00 per year (individual).

ALEXANDRIA SCOTTISH CHRISTMAS WALK—SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2025

Please join us for the Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk parade on Saturday, December 6, 2025, in Old Towne Alexandria, Virginia. The parade starts at 11:00am and those intending to march with us in the parade should plan to be at the assembly area no later than 10:30am. Our assembly point will be communicated to members via email when known. Upon conclusion of the walk, we'll meet, as usual, at the Fish Market restaurant at 105 King Street for our annual clan luncheon. The Scottish Christmas Walk is one of our premier events of the year, and a great time to experience Old Towne Alexandria!



Clan Donnachaidh at the Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk. December 7, 2024.