

Clan Craig Connections



Clan Craig Association of America NEWSLETTER

April—June 2010 Issue

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2010 Annual Meeting Annual Meeting



**Our annual meeting will be July 31, 2010 @
11:00 AM at the Enumclaw Highland games in
the Clan Craig tent.**

**If you are not on the email listing and wish to be contact our
secretary Gloria Craig to be added, her email is
gcraig357@hotmail.com**

Calling all Craigs

The concept of “ancestry” and finding one’s roots has taken off in the United States. We are a culture built on people from the whole world. To find one’s heritage engages the mind and soul in a search for who we are and where our family comes from.

I myself am in the midst of learning about my personal family’s background. The road is not always easy and the research is confusing at best. In the end my hope is to know more about myself and from whom I came.

My point is this...this newsletter is a wonderful opportunity for us to share about our family. I encourage the readers to send in articles, information, or even family history that just maybe our readers will connect with in some new and exciting way. This newsletter is for us to share the heritage and happenings of the Craig Family.

If you have something to contribute you may send it to me directly at my email address (found in the left column). I will try not to change it too much in the process. The newsletter is quarterly, so get your articles in early. Thank you for your future contributions.

Conrad Bryant, Editor

Scottish Festival: Tartan Day 2010

Clan Craig Association of America participated in the March 27, 2010 Tartan Day in Puyallup, Washington. Tartan Day is a celebration of Scottish heritage



and typically has parades of [pipe bands](#), [Highland dancing](#) and other Scottish-themed events. On National Tartan Day, there is a celebration of the spirit and character of Scottish Americans and recognition of their many contributions to our culture and our way of life. President M. Craig and Secretary/Treasurer G. Craig set up and manned the Clan Craig Association table. The table was prominently placed as

visitors came in through the front door of the building, making it the first Clan seen upon entry to the celebration. Clan tables were placed along the periphery, performances were at the end of the building and vendors were placed strategically opposite the clans.



**The Story Behind
The Scottish Thistle,
the National Emblem
of Scotland**
'A Prickly Tale'

*By John A. Duncan of Sketraw,
KCN, FSA Scot.*



The prickly purple thistle was adopted as the Emblem of Scotland during the reign of Alexander III (1249 -1286). Legend has it that an Army of King Haakon of Norway, intent on conquering the Scots landed at the Coast of Largs at night to surprise the sleeping Scottish Clansmen. In order to move more stealthily under the cover of darkness the Norsemen removed their footwear.

As they drew near to the Scots it wasn't the only thing hiding under the cover of darkness. For one of Haakon's men unfortunately stood on one of these spiny little defenders and shrieked out in pain, alerting the Clansmen of the advancing Norsemen. Needless to say the Scots who won the day.

The first use of the Thistle as a royal symbol of Scotland was on silver coins issued by James III in 1470.

The Order of the Thistle



The Order of the Thistle

This order was founded in 1540 by King James V who being honoured with the order of the Garter from his uncle King Henry VIII of England and with the Golden Fleece from the Emperor, and the order of St Michael from France, resolved to be in the royal mode, and so made the order of the Thistle for himself and twelve knights, in imitation of Christ and his twelve apostles. Then celebrating all the festivals of the orders, he set up their arms and badges over the

gate of his palace at Linlithgow, joining St. Andrew with them.

The common badge (shown above) worn by the knights are, a cross surmounted by a star of four silver points, and over them a green circle bordered and lettered with gold, containing the motto "*Nemo me impune lacessit*", "*No-one harms me without punishment*" but more commonly translated in Scots as "*Wha daurs meddle wi me*". and in the centre is a thistle proper, the whole being embroidered on the left breast.

Purpose and Mission

The Clan Craig Association is a voluntary, non-sectarian, non-stock, and non-profit organization formed under the laws of incorporation of the State of Washington. All applicants who meet membership requirements will be accepted as members with full rights and privileges of membership without regard to race, creed, age or sex and the same may hold any office in the Association to which they are duly elected.

The purposes for which this corporation is formed and its continuing objectives, as follows, are to:

Honor, preserve, promote, and perpetuate the traditions and heritage of the Scottish-American people, with particular emphasis on those who are descendents of the Scottish Clan Craig and the family members of such descendents;

Preserve and perpetuate for the present and the future, the history and traditions of the ancient Clan Craig of Scotland;

Foster and promote education by providing assistance to deserving students and supporting educational institutions in programs of Scottish literature, history, dance, music, and similar activities;

Preserve and promote Scottish and Celtic culture including art, music, dance, and athletics through the establishment of competitions, awards, and scholarships for deserving students, artists, and athletes

The Clan Craig Association of America

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