



# THE GORDON TARTAN

October 2004

NEWSLETTER FOR THE HOUSE OF GORDON, VIRGINIA DIVISION



### CLANSMAN'S BADGE

From a crest cometh a buck's head, proper with ten pointed gold antlers, encircled in a silver strap and buckle

### MOTTOES

Bydand (Abiding)  
Animo non asturia (By courage not craft)

### ANCIENT ARMS

Azure, 3 boar's heads couped  
Or, armed Proper langued Bules  
(3 gold boar's heads facing right on a field of deep blue)

**WAR CRY:** A Gordon! AGordon!

**Tartans:** Modern, Modern Dress, Ancient, Ancient Dress, Old Ancient, Red Gordon, Huntly, Weathered and muted of all of the previous.

## Convenor's Corner

Time flies when you 're having fun. It seems like only two weeks ago we had the H of G annual picnic. There were four families from the House of Gordon Virginia membership. My family was there to help me celebrate my 60th birthday. My son and his new daughter were there also. My wife and sister put on the special event for me.

The food was great. David and Lois Todd help prepare the meal. David's son, Aaron, played his bag pipes. It was a great day and the location was convenient for the many people who attended. We had members present from Fredericksburg and Williamsburg. Next year we will be in Northern Virginia. Check our website for more information.

It is hard to believe that we have attended 11 events this year. We went to Pa. and to Md. as well as Alexandria. We will be looking forward to the Richmond games by the time this news letter is printed. Our last event will be the Christmas Walk in old town Alexandria, Thur. - Sat. Dec 2 - 4. I hope to see a lot of you there. Please see our web site for more information.

The Williamsburg Festival was held near Jamestown Camp Grounds on Sept 25. This location is a lot better than the winery. The grounds were green and flat. Our tent space was great. Lu Gordon, our USA convenor, was present. We had a chance to meet the new Maryland convener, David Gordon. Many Gordon friends stopped by and showed an



**Morris Gordon, John Lowrey, Lu Gordon and Wendell Gordon at Grandfather Mtn.**

interest in joining our H of G. The "Highland Hut" was used, and I found the overnight stay very pleasant. We have used the RV to stay in at several events.

We drove the RV to the Radford Games at Radford University. There we met many Gordon friends and added one new member to our group. Dr. Jim Newman's mother was a Gordon. He is a faculty member at Radford. You should have seen his new kilt. He will help us next year at the tent site.

Overall we have had a great year. Our membership has increased; we have provided tent space for more events than in the past. Our treasury is in the black and I am looking forward to the new year, 2005. The board has some great ideas to work on, and all this will benefit the members. More on this plan will be discussed in future news letters.

The web site has won several awards and is getting better as it grows. Thanks to Lois Todd.

The Todd's son Aaron, has won several awards in bag pipe competition in Va, Pa, and Md. We re very proud of his efforts. We hope to get some our member's daughters involved in Highland Dancing competitions.

## **Richmond Games Open Saturday**

The 10th Annual Richmond Highland games and Celtic Festival caps off another exciting schedule of Scottish festivals held during the summer and fall months each year in Virginia this coming Saturday and Sunday next to the RIR Strawberry Hill Raceway at the State Fairgrounds.

The House of Gordon will again set up a clan tent to welcome all members and prospective members, along with offering our members and invited guests to join us for some tasty food and drink, along with our hospitality.

We will have crackers and cheese from the Stuarts Draft Cheese Shop, David Todd's famous James River style barbeque, veggies and dip fresh from Sallie and Ed Gordon farm near metropolitan Chula, Shenandoah iced tea and lemonade, and fresh fruit from Morris' orchard and berry farm.

All other members are encouraged to bring chips or crackers and dip or their favorite deserts to help feed the masses.

We will also have the annual House of Gordon membership meeting at 2 p.m. Saturday in the clan tent. Members should bring a folding chair if they plan to attend the meeting. If you have any new business you wish to bring up please call secretary Barbara Wray in the evening at 804-561-2362.

A word of warning, tickets this year will cost \$22 for adults so be sure to fill the wallet with plenty of greenbacks This does include free parking, however.

In any event, hope to see most of our old friends at the clan tent. I will be taking orders for H of G apparel from Shenandoah Tees for Christmas presents, in case you are interested in ordering mine early this year..

Here is the schedule for the weekend activities in case you want to catch some of the entertainment or the athletic or musical competition.

### **SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE**

**9 a.m. -- Highland Dance Competition on the dance stage; Young MacDonald's**

**rabbits and sheep; Celtic Market in Vender Area; Living History Encampment; Piping competition in the competition area.**

**9:30 a.m. -- U.S. Celtic Nationals Heavy Athletics Championships at the Aquafina Games Field**

**10 a.m. -- Robin Rich on 5th Dewars Celtic Culture stage; Scottish Fiddle competition on the Gaelic Strings stage; Drum Comp. in the Pipe Band area; Uisce Beathe at the Guinness Irish Pub and Music Pavilion.**

**10:30 a.m. -- Sterling Sword Players at the SSP Enclosure.**

**11 a.m. Rhythm of Ireland Irish Dancers on the Dewars Celtic culture stage; Charlie Zham, Tad Marks and Mark Sullivan at the Guinness Irish Pub and Music Pavilion.**

**12 Noon -- Opening Ceremonies and Massed Bands at the Aquafina Games Field.**

**12:30 p.m. -- Sterling Sword Players at the SSP Enclosure; Scottish Country Dancers at the Dewars Celtic Culture Stage.**

**1 p.m. -- Hunting Macleod at the Guinness Irish Pub and Music Pavilion; Pipe Band Competition**

**1:30 p.m. -- Irish Fiddle Competition on the Gaelic Strings Stage.**

**2 p.m. -- Charlie Zham with Tad Marks and Mark Sullivan at the Guinness Irish Pub Pav.; Parade of Dogs of the British Isles in the Wee Ones area.**

**2:30 p.m. -- Stirling Sword Players at the SSP Enclosure.**

**3 p.m. -- Terpichore on the Dewars Celtic Culture Stage; Uisce Beatha at the Guinness Irish Pub Pav.**

**3 p.m. -- Tinker's Dam at the Dewars Celtic Culture Stage; Ferret Legging at the SSP Enclosure.**

**4 p.m. -- Hunting MacLeod at the Guinness Irish Pub Pav.**

**4:30 p.m. -- Robin Rich at the Dewars CC Stage; US Celtic Nationals Heavy Athletics at the Aquafina Games Field; Championship award ceremony.**

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## Richmond Games This Weekend Continued from Pg. 2

5 p.m. -- Event closes.

7:30 - 11 p.m Ceilidh at the Wyndham Garden Hotel. Directions from the games; Left on Laburnam Ave to 4700 S. Laburnum.

### Sunday

All Day -- Rabbits and Sheep at Young MacDonald's Farm; Celtic Market in the Vendor area; Living History Encampment.

9 a.m. -- Musical Prelude to Kirkin' - Robin Rich and Charlie Zahm at Dewars Stage.

9:30 a.m. -- Kirkin' O' Tartan Worship Service at Dewars Stage.

10 a.m. Harp Competition at Gaelic Strings Stage .

10:30 Stirling Sword Players at SSP Enclosure; Robin Rich at Dewars Stage.

11 a.m. Charlie Zahm with Tad Marks and Mark Sullivan at the Guinness Irish Pub and Music Pav.; Highland Dance Competition on the Dance Stage; Amateur Scottish Heavy Athletics at the Aquafina Games Field.

11:30 a.m. Trasná on the Dewars stage.

12noon -- Parade of the Scottish Clans at the Aquafina Games Field.

12:30 p.m. -- The Southern Express Equestrian Team presents (Equine River Dance) at the Aquafina Games Field; The Stirling Sword Players at the SSP Enclosure; The Crossroads Irish Dance Troupe on Dewars Stage.

1 p.m. -- Hunting MacLeod at the Guinness Irish Pub Pav.

1:30 p.m. -- Trasná at the Dewars Stage.

2 p.m. -- Tinker's Dam at Guinness Pav.; Virginia Gentlemen vs the Wild Geese on rugby field; Blessing of the Animals at the Pipe Band Competition area.

2:30 p.m. -- Sheep Dog Demo. at PBC area.

3 p.m. -- Charlie Zahm at Guinness Pav.

3:30 -- Robin Rich on the Dewars stage; Ferret Legging at SSP Enclosure.

4 p.m. -- Hunting MacLeod at Guinness Pav.;

4:30 p.m. -- Punk in' Chunk in' & Award Ceremony at Aquafina Games Field.



Girls participate in the Tug O War at Grandfather Mountain

## House of Gordon Tour of Scotland August 3rd - August 14th 2005

Once again Caledonian Travel Inc. is heading up a tour to Scotland. The tour starts in Glasgow and will travel through Dunfermline, Aberdeen, Aboyne where the Gordon Clan Chief will oversee the Highland Games; Then to Huntley with time to visit Huntley Castle which was the seat of the Gordon's until 1544.

Then on to Strathisla Distillery and Baxter's Visitor Center in Fochabers, a visit to the Gordon Highlanders Museum; A tour of Aberdeen, Haddo House, and too many other places to mention. I will just mention the dates again - August 3rd through the 14th, 2005. The price is \$2,325 per person sharing a twin room. This does not include air fare.

For further information call Caledonia Travel Inc. 770-979-1010 or you can E mail the agency at [caledonians@mindspring.com](mailto:caledonians@mindspring.com)



Highland Dancers at Grandfather Mountain



# 2005 Membership Dues

Member status \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Remit to: House of Gordon  
Morris Gordon, convener  
501 Greenside Court  
\$10.00  
Chester, VA 23836-2639

Dues break down  
House of Gordon Scotland \$5.00  
House of Gordon, USA  
House of Gordon, Virginia \$10.00  
Total \$25.00

Don't miss out on anything. Renew now and help keep the House of Gordon strong, vitalized and growing.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please let us know if you are moving so that we can keep in touch**

**HOUSE OF GORDON  
MORRIS A GORDON, CONVENER  
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CHESTER, VIRGINIA 23836-2639**



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