

The Sgian Dubh

Clan Morrison Society of North America

<https://clanmorrison.net/>

Morrison, Morison, Murison, Gilmore, Gilmour, Brieve, MacBrieve, Judge



James Morrison, far right in his Morrison red kilt, at the first Tartan Parade in Edinburgh, Scotland. To his right are Rich Wilson of the St. Andrew's Color Guard, St. Andrew's President Chris Humphreys, the Lord Lyon King of Arms, TJ Holland of St. Andrew's, Baron George Way of Plean.

Morrison joins Tartan Parade in Scotland

By James Morrison

How many of us like going to parades? We do! Even if it means an 8,000-mile round trip. My wife, Lisa, and I decided to travel from our home in Arkansas to represent Clan

Morrison at the inaugural Tartan Parade in the Scottish capital of Edinburgh on May 10. Not just attend but actually march in the parade! We met with several members of the St. Andrew's Society of Washington, D.C. and its Color Guard unit, who were parade participants. Being in a parade in Scotland can be challenging given the fickle weather conditions one might expect in this country but not on May 10. The weather could not have been more perfect – sunny, mid-60s – just ideal for the afternoon festivities.

I was thrilled to wear my Morrison Tartan tie and kilt – the Red Modern Morrison Tartan – along with my Clunie Tweed Jacket and five- button waistcoat by House of Edgar – Russet. It was a great combination. I received compliments and questions such as, “Is that tartan a MacGregor?” I responded, “No, sir, it’s a Morrison tartan!”. The only piece missing from my outfit was a hat which I should have worn as I proceeded to get a bit more sun on my head. Yes, you can still get a sunburn in Scotland!

We met with the St. Andrew's Society and Color Guard members on High Street at the top of the Royal Mile. We were asked to arrive in the parade formation by 12:15 pm for the start of the 1 pm parade. Everyone was excited to participate in this parade, which was the first of its kind, modeled after New York City's Tartan Day Parade to celebrate the city's 900th anniversary.

Nine hundred years – a mind-blowing fact given the United States as a nation was founded just under 250 years ago!

As we assembled in our respective spot, we had the pleasure to mingle again with Lord Lyon King of Arms, Dr. Joseph J. Morrow. The night before, the St. Andrew's Society members were invited by Lord Lyon to have drinks and dinner at the New Club located on Princes St in Edinburgh. Great conversations were had by all in the club lounge area as well as in the main dining room where one could view magnificent paintings of British kings, queens, and country scenes of the UK. A marvelous time to start a wonderful weekend in Scotland!

In the parade, our group was right behind the Clan MacKay Society of Scotland and in front of the Caithness Youth Pipe Band. While we waited for the parade to start, the pipe



“Vikings” on the march

band behind us practiced; and I have to say, they were outstanding! Nothing beats hearing the bagpipes performed by the younger generation on the Royal Mile in Edinburgh. It was warming to see young people take an interest in the bagpipes and play them so well.

In all, there were 77 different groups and over 1,600 individual participants in the parade. Once the parade started, we commenced our walk, waving to the spectators that lined both sides of the street. There were cheers and smiles on everyone's face. Everyone seemed to welcome the parade with open arms and joy. It was a proud moment for me to celebrate my Scottish heritage, representing the Morrisons, in Scotland's capital.

It reminded me of how I had spent my Junior Year Abroad, 38 years ago that day, at the University of Edinburgh. My living accommodations were in Patrick Geddes Hall in Mylne's Court, just outside the castle on the Royal Mile. Never in my wildest dreams would I have expected to be back in this city, and marching in a parade!



We made it down Cockburn Street only to be held up by the Denny High School Dance Academy who performed a number of dance sets in front of the reviewing stand. They did a wonderful job, executing with precision. Once the parade started back up, we continued into Prince Street Gardens where it ended at the Scottish National Galleries.

We proceeded to the Ross Band Stand to enjoy a lively Ceilidh in the Gardens with Whisky Kiss and Gleadhraidh. Parade participants arrived with some of them wanting to make a statement. The Viking group, Delting Jarl Squad from Scotland's Shetland islands – roaring “Arrrghh!” – waved their shields and battle axes as they marched.

My wife and I were thrilled to be participants in this event. I loved representing the Morrison Clan and showing off our tartan colors. It was fun to celebrate the rich Scottish history with other aficionados in the Scottish capital. We loved every minute of it and would do it again.

To see the full parade and participants, please visit the following link:
<https://shorturl.at/nvOnq>

James Morrison of Rogers, Arkansas is a finance professional with Nestle Health Science and a member of nine heritage groups, including the Clan Morrison Society of North America.

Out and about



The chiefs confer in Scotland

Andrew Morrison, viscount Dunrossil, (left) and Alasdair Morrison, chief of Clan Morrison, attended the annual meeting of the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs in Edinburgh in July.

Morrison's in Milwaukee, 'Minnesota nice'



Samuel Morrison with family and friends at the Milwaukee Highland Games. Below, a Highland cow bath toy and, next page, a friend admiring Samuel's pitchfork.

Samuel Morrison demonstrates the legendary hospitality of the Morrison clan when he sets up his tent at Scottish games in Minnesota, a state known for its friendliness even in its nickname "Minnesota nice."

"We run a pretty friendly tent," he said in a report he wrote for the Clan Morrison website about the June 7 Milwaukee Highland Games. "We try to get the kids interested."



He gives out coloring books and rubber duckie-inspired bathtub floating toys with a Scottish theme.

"This year it was Highland cows," Samuel said.

He also distributes Morrison leaflets, describing the clan's history. This year he focused on the Ulster Scots heritage of Scottish migrants to Northern Ireland centuries ago. (They are sometimes called Scots-Irish. Many migrated throughout the Appalachian Mountains.)

“We change up the handouts day-to-day,” he added. “This year we went with information on the Scots-Irish because of our family’s direct migration from Scotland to Northern Ireland and then to America.”

He also includes Scottish-themed printouts, including the 23rd Psalm (which begins “The Lord is my shepherd”) in Scots English and information about genealogy.

“My Ma does all that printing out for us, as well as all the genealogy research, so it's nice to be able to show her hard work and help people get a start on what can be a daunting task,” Samuel said.

He added new flags to his tent, and his Morrison banner includes both the Dun Eistein and the Teaghlach Phabbay clan badges.

Samuel noted a peculiar occurrence at both the Milwaukee and at the Waukesha games, where he also hosts a Morrison tent.

“The strangest thing is that every year, we've only ever had one man come to our tent with the Morrison last name. Never have any of the sept's names either. But every year, we get two to four women each day who had Morrison as their maiden name

“I always found it odd that it is always women and no men, but I suppose that our last name is more prevalent down south and back east than it is in the Midwest.”

Samuel will host a tent at the Waukesha games over the Labor Day weekend.



If you want to report on the games you host, please send me an email about your festival and photos with people identified. Thank you – the editor.

jamesellismorrison@gmail.com

Morrison's celebrate Tartan Day



Jeff Perry of Northern Virginia (top) wearing the weathered green Morrison great kilt, at the Tartan Day Dressed to Kilt fashion show in New York; James and Lisa Morrison of Arkansas (left) in New York for the Tartan Day Parade; Buddy and Crystal Morrison of North Carolina at Tartan Day ceremonies at the Grandfather Mountain games.

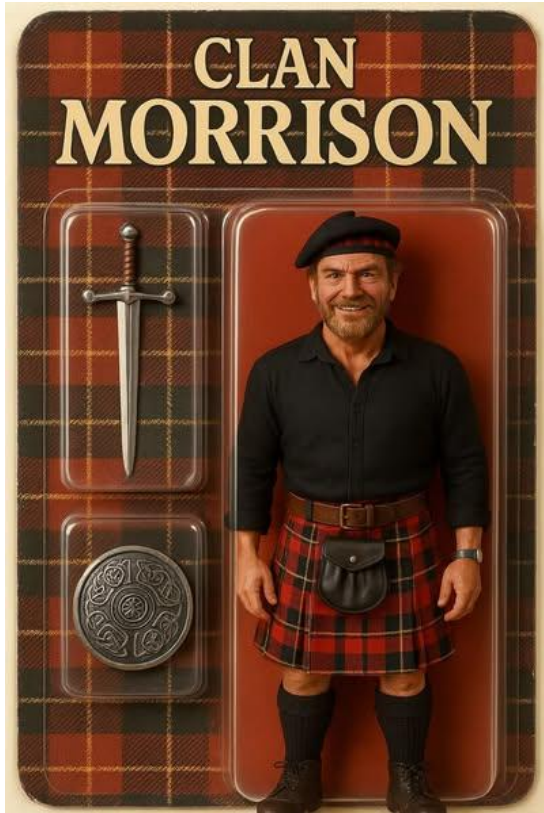


Memorial Day in Washington, DC

Pipers Tom Morrison and Siobhan Williams of the Washington Scottish Pipe Band at Memorial Day ceremonies in the District of Columbia. Tom, a pipe corporal, is a member of the Clan Morrison Society of North America, and Siobhan, a pipe sergeant, is a member of the Scottish American Women's Society.

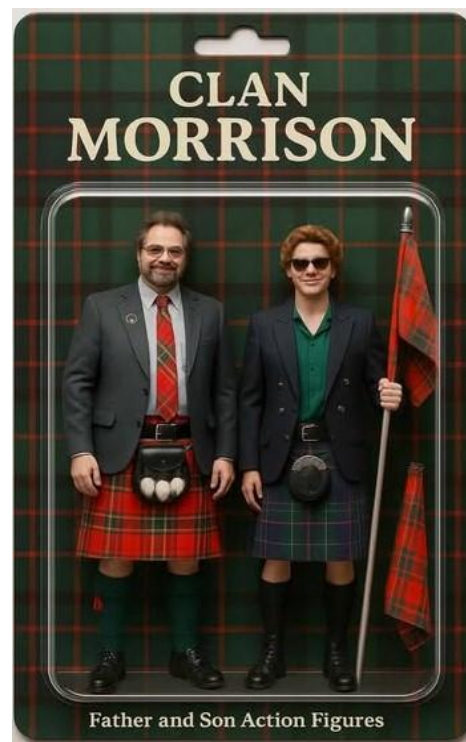


Divine inspiration: In the movie “Cabaret,” Sally Bowles flashed her green-painted fingernails and declared, “Divine decadence, Darling!” Heather Josselyn-Cranson, a society member from Sudbury, Mass., did her one better. She painted her nails in an attempt to reproduce the Green Morrison tartan. Obviously, a divine inspiration.



The Morrison Action Collection

Buddy Morrison (above), who writes our genealogy column, and Crystal Morrison (top right), both of North Carolina. Michael Morrison of Houston, Texas, and his son, Hugh, of Northern Virginia (right). They joined the latest Internet craze and created action figures of themselves.





Summer, Fall games: <https://shorturl.at/dQQDx> <https://shorturl.at/DHPwT>

Summer membership report

Life American members	380	Annual foreign members	5
Annual Americans members	60	Total membership	460
Life foreign members	15		

New Members

David DeGooyer	Chicago, IL
Leslie M. Morey	Monticello, KY
Fred James Williamson	San Antonio, TX
Michael Morrison	Fayetteville, NC Life Member
James Reid Morrison	Rogers, AR

Deceased Members

Bonnie K. Dunton	Milton, NH Life Member
Harry E. Buyce	Northville, NY Life Member



CMSNA Executive Leadership

The Chief of Clan Morrison: R. Alasdair Morrison of Ruchi

Chairman:

Michael S. Morrison

Vice Chairman:

Vacant

Treasurer:

(Michael S. Morrison, acting)

Membership:

William Broome

Secretary:

Vacant

Historian:

Edmund Potter, PhD

Chaplain:

Vacant

Newsletter Editor:

James Morrison

Scholarship Director:

Robert S. Morrison

Past Chieftain:

Anne M. Morrison

Webmaster:

William Broome

Past Chairmen: Anne Morrison, Chris Gillmore, Arthur Morrison, Edwin F. Holcombe Jr., Jim Morrison, Gerald B. Morrison, Jeffrey Moore, David H. Blain, David R. Gilmour

Members at Large: William Broome, Arthur Morrison

Chairman's Advisory Committee: Edwin Holcombe Jr., Jim Morrison, Robert "Bob" Morrison, David R. Gilmour, Chris Gilmore, Jennifer Wolcott