

The AGNEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE AGNEW ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



Volume II, Number 2 • April 1989

1990 Clan Gathering in California

Agnews Plan to Participate

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco reports that planning for the International Gathering of Scottish Clans & Families, which will coincide with the club's 125th Jubilee, is proceeding at a brisk pace. Jerry Jardine, Chairman of the 1990 Gathering, disclosed that several clans plan to hold their National or International Annual General Meetings (AGM) during the event in San Francisco and Santa Rosa, California. He further shared that the Standing Council of Scottish Chiefs does not generally endorse any Gatherings. Nevertheless, at the 1988 AGM in Edinburgh, both its Chairman, the Earl of Elgin, and the Rothesay Herald, Sir Crispin Agnew, enthusiastically requested support for the 1990 Gathering. In the last issue of

the *Agnewletter*, we reported that the Caledonian Club made Sir Crispin an honorary member last year, and invited him to attend the 1990 Gathering. We're pleased to announce that clan Agnew is one of the clans listed by the Caledonian Club as planning to hold its annual meeting at the Gathering.

There will be numerous special events, most of which are now only in the planning stages, and special travel arrangements are being made. We will publish periodic updates and information about the 1990 Gathering and special Agnew related events as details are arranged. Convener Art Agnew has more to say about plans for the 1990 gathering in *The Last Word* column on page 9. ♦



Caledonian Club meet slated for September 1989

The Caledonian Club of San Francisco will hold its 124th Annual Scottish Gathering and Games at the Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa, California on September 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 1989. We do not plan a formal gathering of Agnews at the event, but we encourage all who are interested in attending to make arrangements to do so.

Gathering of the Clans Committee Chairman Jerry Jardine, reports that Pan Ameri-

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Hatfields and McCoys— Agnew Style

New member Dr. Elizabeth Ritchey of Blacksburg, Virginia shared two newspaper clippings about an unusual landmark in Washago, Ontario, Canada which has a colorful history involving Agnews. One of the clippings was printed in 1928 in the Toronto Star Weekly describes the events shortly after they occurred. The other was written more than thirty years later in 1961 and published in the Orillia, Ontario Daily Packet and Times. We characterize the story as the Hatfields and McCoys, Agnew style. To tell the story, we've summarized the two articles Dr. Ritchey sent.

It is a little bridge over a little river in a little village, but it carries the following inscription

on a bronze tablet: "Peace Bridge, erected 1927 by the County

of Ontario, so named to commemorate the bond of friendship between A. W. Grigg and John Agnew."

This bridge is about 25 feet across and spans a little artificial stream that separated the properties of A.W. Grigg and John Agnew, two long-term residents of the area. About the turn of the century, the two neighbors quarreled over a trifling school matter and it grew into a regular feud. They ceased to speak and



not once did they break the silence for 25 years even when they met face to face. A go-between was called in when necessary to conduct village affairs.

Despite their personal feud, both Agnew and Grigg were instrumental in securing a new and modern bridge constructed in Washago at a point where their respective properties met. A fellow townsman, and unofficial mayor of the village, Mr. Carl Harvey, thought it would be

appropriate for the two men to make peace, especially with

the construction of the bridge joining their properties. He took it upon himself to approach A.W. Grigg and John Agnew and suggest that they reconcile. To his surprise, after twenty five years of feuding, both men were interested in making peace.

At the time of this incident, the "Peace Bridge" between Fort Erie and Buffalo at the U.S.A.—Canadian bor-

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Caledonian

(Continued from Page 1)

can airways has kindly made available to Gathering participants a 40% discount on round trip coach fares to San Francisco from any United States city. Travel must occur between August 25 and September 10. Contact Mr. Jardin for details of toll free booking and convention numbers. Contact him by phone at (415) 567-5853, or address your request to Gathering of the Clans Committee, 900 Broderick Street, #11, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Ticket prices are \$11.00

for one day, \$16.00 for two days, and \$5.00 for youth and senior. Entrance for children under 11 years is free. Grandstand prices for bleachers and boxes range from \$1.00 to \$3.00. There is a slight savings for advance ticket sales to clans (\$11.00 for two days). The Caledonian Club has asked that only one person from a clan make arrangements for advance tickets. If you plan to attend and wish the reduced rate, please contact Convener Art Agnew at P.O. Box 691, Petaluma, California, 94953 as soon as possible. The cut off date for advance ticket sales is July 1, 1989. ♦

Dues Decrease

Two hundred years ago, Benjamin Franklin wrote to a friend about the fledgling United States Constitution, penning the words "...but in this world nothing is certain but death and taxes."

To a member of an association such as ours, *dues* are another certainty. But we have good news to report. The Agnew Association Board of Directors recently approved a *drop*, yes you read it correctly, a *drop* in annual dues!

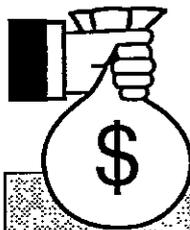
Effective July 1, 1989, annual dues will be \$15.00 per year. There will also be a student and youth rate of \$6.00 per year so that the younger generation Agnews might be inspired to participate and devote some of their boundless energy to researching the Agnew family.

Under the new dues structure, and, in order to simplify record keeping, all annual dues will be payable by July 1 of each year. Individuals who join the association during the year will pay a prorated amount. The new dues schedule follows:

I'm sure you'll agree that it is not often that something *drops* in price. We hope this will encourage everyone to pay their association dues. Please

make checks payable to the Agnew Association of America and mail your check to our Association treasurer.

Mrs. Lois Schieck
#105, 4615 N. Park Ave.
Chevy Chase, MA 20815.



Agnew Association of America Dues Structure Effective July 1, 1989

Regular membership—\$15.00
Student Membership—\$ 6.00

Prorated dues for individuals joining during the year.

7/1—9/30 \$15.00
10/1—12/31 \$12.00
1/1—3/31 \$ 9.00
4/1—5/31 \$ 6.00
6/1—6/30 \$ 15.00 (mem-
bership would begin on June 1
and dues would cover through
June of the following year)

Agnew Sluggers

An article about Sam Agnew, World Series player with the Champion Boston Red Sox in 1918, appeared in the October 1988 issue of the Agnew Newsletter. Here, Convener Art Agnew talks about Sam Agnew, his childhood inspiration.

When I was a small boy, my father, who liked to watch baseball, took me to the "Big Rec" the home of the San Francisco Seals, our home town pride and joy. Sam Agnew had finished his big league career and was playing for the Seals in the early 1920's. Watching him play caused me to want to be a "big leaguer." He wasn't a relative, but Sam Agnew inspired me to become a ball player in high school and college. In fact, I received my college education through a baseball scholarship. And though I briefly flirted with the idea of a baseball career after college, I did not become a "big leaguer." Although I pursued a different career goal, Sam Agnew remained an inspiration to me. ♦

If you have family trees, stories, anecdotes, newsclippings, reference materials, ideas, or suggestions that you wish to share with members of the Agnew Association, please send them to us at P.O. Box 691, Petaluma, California 94953. Through this sharing, you may help another Agnew grow a new branch on a family tree.

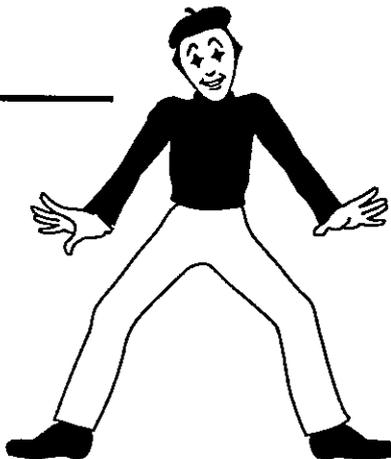
Humor

A man visited a genealogist and asked how much it would cost to trace his family tree.

"That depends on how far back you want to have it traced and how difficult it is to search the records," remarked the genealogist.

"That sounds expensive," the man said. "Isn't there an easier way to get it done?"

"Oh sure!" the genealogist said. "Just run for public office!" ♦



"If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing."

—Benjamin Franklin

Poor Richard's Almanack ♦

Looking for an Agnew—

Pat Alexander submitted the following information about an Agnew "stray." It is from Hancock County, Illinois Genealogies, from history written in 1921. Does any of this sound familiar? If so, maybe this information will lead you to more about your family.

ALBERT B. AGNEW, a leading contractor in Hancock County. He was born in Ohio, 8 April 1854, son of Daniel W. and Mary Ann (Ray) Agnew. Daniel W. was born in 1814 and died in 1893. His wife was born 1817 and died 1891. Albert B. had 2 brothers and 5 sisters:

Edward S.

Addie B. married Fletcher Johnson

Mary Jane

Anna Ray married J.L. Miller

Emma Bell married Charles Grubb

John (deceased)

Kate (deceased)

The parents moved from Ohio to Missouri in 1856 and came to Hancock County in 1857 by wagon. Albert B. married 5 January 1881, Estella Robe, daughter of Simon and Eliza (Hull) Robe and their only child. She was raised by her maternal grandparents, Justine and Harriet Hull. ♦

Bridge

(Continued from Page 2)

der was being constructed. Mr. Harvey suggested that the new bridge in their village also be named the Peace Bridge. Both Grigg and Agnew agreed.

A gala event was planned to mark the ending of the long-standing quarrel and the entire village turned out to witness the drama. It was after dark and car headlights illuminated the scene. The men appeared at opposite sides of the

bridge, dressed in their Sunday best. They met in the middle and for the first time in a quarter century, shook hands. The two men remained friends until John Agnew's death. A. W. Grigg served as a pall bearer at his friend's funeral.

The unusual event was recorded in the County year book for that year by County Engineer D. J. Kean. ♦

Agnews — and Othernews

*The Agnew Association of America draws us together because we are interested in learning about our heritage—our common ancestors. But the bond that unites us is more than a name and we hope the **Agnewsletter** will help us to learn not only about our past, but about our present as well—the members of the Association, their families, and the members of our sister associations in Scotland and Australia. As with other features in the newsletter, we will rely on your contributions. Please send us items of interest. We hope to use this space to get to know one another. Please send in any information you want to share with the members.*

Upcoming Events—

The Southern California Genealogical Society will host its 20th annual Genealogical Jamboree on April 23, 1989 from 9:30 to 4:30 at the Exhibition Building, The Pasadena Center, 300 E. Green Street, Pasadena, California 91503

The event is open to the public and a \$5.00 donation is requested. Contact the Southern California Genealogical Society directly at 122 S. San Fernando Blvd., P.O. Box 4377, Burbank, CA 91503, (818) 843-7247.

◆
The Caledonian Club of Sacramento will host the 113th anniversary Sacramento Valley Scottish Games and Gathering on April 21 through April 23, 1989, at the Dixon May Fairground in Dixon, California.

For more information, contact the Caledonian Club of Sacramento, 801 Twelfth Street, Suite 500, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Agnew Pilgrimage Cancelled—

Co-convenor Kenneth Agnew reports that the Agnew Pilgrimage planned for September, and described in the last issue, has been cancelled. We're sorry to hear that and hope the idea will catch on in the future.

New Members—

Charles F. Agnew
3103 Encanto Dr.
Napa, CA 94557

Charles Agnew is older brother of Convenor Art Agnew and long time member Russell Agnew, and uncle of *Agnewsletter* Editor Carol Smith.

◆
Michael S. Agnew
810 Norton Hall
2400 Durant Street
Berkeley, CA 94720

Michael is Convenor Art Agnew's grandson and is a student at the University of California at Berkeley.

Agnew Tartan—

Dr. Elizabeth Ritchey has informed us that the Agnew tartan is available at a shop in Canada. The shop sells our tartan by the yard as well as ready-made items in the tartan. For more information, write to

House of McLaren
c/o Sheena McLaren Dickson
125-131 Water Street
Vancouver, B.C., Canada
V6B 1A7

◆
Don't forget that the Agnew tartan is also available through the boutique at Lochnaw Castle. Write to:

The Boutique
Lochnaw Castle
Leswalt by Stranraer
Wigtownshire
South-West Scotland

Agnew Profiles

Each issue, we ask one or two of our members to contribute something about themselves that they wish to share with other members. With these autobiographical sketches, we hope to expand our knowledge about each other, and perhaps even find a lost relative or two! This month two members are profiled.

Marjorie Louise Agnew Adams—Accokeek, Maryland

There is very little to “tell” about myself. I am married to a Cornishman and live here, just across the Potomac from Mt. Vernon in a reserve of lovely places at least 5 acres required to build on, trees, pools, bridle paths, wildy blooming Japanese flowering trees in spring and summers. I am a poet, elected to membership in the Poetry Society of America, also listed in Who’s Who (International) of Poets published in England 15 or so years ago. The formal name of our home is “Tremain” after that of my husband’s ancestral home in

Cornwall.

And now I come to the Agnews who have haunted me for so long. Who was Nineay Agnew? According to a copy of a ship’s log I have, he was here in 1675 from Scotland aboard the “Lovely Nelly” (Captain William Shiridan’s ship) and was in Kittery, Maine in 1676.

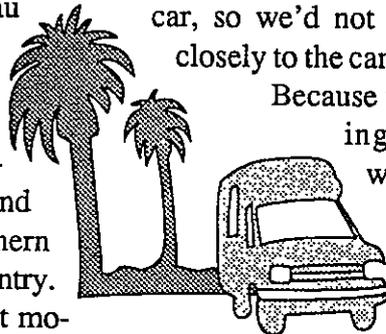
Also one Agneaux, French Huguenot, landed at New Orleans in 1719, aboard Monsieur “Japye’s” ship, the “Flute Marie.” since I am of French Huguenot descent, on my

mother’s side, I am intensely interested in this Agneaux. Anyone out there a French Huguenot?

My brothers and I have the Coat of Arms that hung on our grandfather’s study wall. He was Samuel Andrew Agnew and had several brothers who were river boat captains on the Ohio River, maybe the Mississippi also. Grandfather was a gentlemen farmer who raised just race horses, in and around Lewis County Kentucky. His father was Samuel Clark(e) Agnew. ♦

Allen F. Agnew—Corvallis, Oregon

FFF (Favorite Frau Frances) and I spent the month of January as first-time snowbirds, in the Phoenix area of Arizona and the Indio area of southern California’s desert country. We drove our 27-foot motor home and towed our small



car, so we’d not be tied too closely to the camp grounds.

Because we left during the last week of December, when I-5 was requiring

chains for several days because of new snow and hazardous driving conditions, we went over to the Coast and took Highway 101 southward. To our great surprise, just after crossing into California we had to traverse 200 miles of new snow there—as much as eight

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Profiles

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inches deep at Willits!

We enjoyed exploring the Salton Sea country and its geothermal springs and agricultural fame, and spent a wonderful day up north at the Joshua Tree National Monument, where we shared a camp ground with a coyote—and a few other campers. In the Indio area we were reunited with friends who had lived across the street from us in Pullman, Washington, where we'd taught geology at Washington State University some 15–20 years ago.

We enjoyed the Phoenix area very much for there we joined forces with three couples from one of our early hometowns, in southwestern Wisconsin some 35–40 years ago—when our children were little and we were doing geology in the lead–zinc mining district for the U.S. Geological Survey. We drove around quite a bit in southeastern Arizona, visiting mining towns and the Arizona Geological Survey in Tucson.

Having come from Central Illinois, with grandparents in

southern Illinois and great-grandparents just north of Cincinnati in Hamilton County, Ohio, upon retirement we moved west to Oregon in 1981, where I'm Courtesy Professor of Geology at Oregon State University. Three of our four children, and all seven grandchildren are within 100 miles; the other "child", now 40 years old, worked in the [Washington] DC area—where we had spent the last 10 years of our "working" life, with the Library of Congress. ♦

Gaelic Dress Codes

The following is a translation of the Gaelic Proclamation intimating the repeal in 1782 of the Act of Parliament passed in 1746 prohibiting the wearing of the Highland Dress.

LISTEN MEN

This is bringing before all the Sons of the Gael that the King and Parliament of Britain have for ever abolished the Act against the Highland Dress that

came down to the Clans from the beginning of the world to the year 1746. This must bring great joy to every Highland heart. You are no longer bound down to the unmanly dress of the Lowlander. This is declaring to every man, young and old, Commons and Gentles, that they may after this



put on and wear the Trews, the Little Kilt, the Doublet and Hose, along with the Tartan Kilt, without fear of the Law of the Land or the jealousy of enemies. ♦

Editor's Corner —Excerpts from the mail box...

Thanks to all who wrote to offer support, compliments, suggestions, and ideas for the **Agnewsletter**. As we implement changes, we hope to achieve a useful, informative, and entertaining journal for the Agnew Association of America. Following are excerpts from letters we've received about the new look of the newsletter. We look forward to hearing more from you —and about you.

—Editor



Very belatedly because I have had a long series of days in Court, I write to congratulate you on Volume II No.1 of the **Agnewsletter** which I received.

You certainly have put a very new look on the newsletter and I am most impressed by the layout. It is so good that I think I will have to get a desk top publishing package so that we can try to emulate the example you have set in future newsletter which my wife and I try to put together.

I do enjoy reading the American newsletter and wish you all the best with the editorship for the future, because my wife and I both know how much hard work goes into producing the copy.

—Crispin, Bt. of Lochnaw

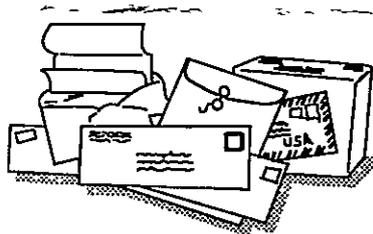


Congratulations! It is indeed a splendid new **Agnewsletter**, and I'm delighted to have you as our new Editor. I sincerely hope our members will be inspired to send you material for coming issues....

—Lois Schieck, Secretary-Treasurer



Just a note to say what a wonderful job you did on the



new **Agnewsletter**. I thought it was excellent in format, style and content. ... I shall look forward to the future volumes of the letter, but know it will be a great success.

—John Agnew, Convener Emeritus



...If I may be candid. I am sure the membership is as delighted as I am at the new and

professional look of our newsletter. However, many members are looking for genealogical information on their Agnews and have stated this is the reason they joined the association, for the historical information in the newsletter....

—Pat Alexander, Archivist

[Ed. note: In future issues, we hope to publish more archival material about the Agnews, including family trees, but we're also trying to achieve a balance in the newsletter so that the members will get to know about each other. The **Agnewsletter** is for the membership of the Association. We want to publish what the members want to see. We also must rely on the members to provide us with information that we can share.]



Congratulations on a great **Agnewsletter**. I am most impressed.

I suggested to Art [Agnew, Convener] that it might be fun to do a short piece on Spiro "Agnew" who was *not* an Agnew at all. His Greek name was Anagnostropulous or something like that. There are a lot of Agnews in the Baltimore area, descendents of the

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More Mail

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Nova Scotia line of the family, I am told. His name was anglicized, so to speak, and since the Agnews are the best people in Baltimore, or elsewhere, his father or grandfather, whoever it was, naturally chose the name Agnew. Well, the rationale *sounds* good!...Your effort was most professional looking and you are to be congratulated!

—Albert C. Agnew

[Ed. note: We think you're on to something Al. Look for more information about Spiro "Agnew" in future issues.]



...The last newsletter format was great and a definite improvement in how a newsletter should look....

—Kenneth Agnew, Co-Convener



...great job with the new format.

—Mrs. Alvin W. Agnew



The Last Word — Convener Art Agnew

It was pleasing to learn you enjoyed the last issue of the *Agnewsletter*. We are off to a good start. Our editor has further plans for improving it and new elements will be introduced from time to time.

In the short time I have been Convener, I have learned a goodly amount about our organization, and the more I understand it the more improvements I hope to make. I ask your patience through the transformation.

Last issue, I mentioned a possible change in the dues structure. I have asked the

— by plan and not by rashness—echoes this advice. So, it is not inappropriate,

then, to remind you to begin planning for the next Agnew gathering mentioned in our cover story.

The first quarter of 1989 has already passed, so when I say "Plan ahead to Santa Rosa, California over Labor Day weekend for the Caledonian Games in 1990," don't laugh. September 1990 will be here before you know it!

I have begun to make plans for the gathering so the Agnews will be able to participate in the Games with the other clans. We're planning a reunion dinner and a hospitality room. I've made arrangements to reserve a block of rooms for our Association members at the Hotel El Rancho in Santa Rosa. And remember, Sir Crispin has been invited by the Caledonian Club as an honored guest. We'll keep you posted as arrangements are finalized.

I've planned ahead. I hope you will too. ◆



“Plan ahead to Santa Rosa ... in 1990”

Board of Directors to approve the new dues schedule that appears on page 3.

Now, on to other important Agnew matters.

Everyone is aware of the timeless advice to "Plan Ahead." In fact, the Agnew motto, "Consilio Non Impetu"

Agnew Association Membership

The Agnew Association of America was established in the United States in April 1984 at the request of Sir Crispin Agnew, Bt. of Lochnaw, Chief of the Family Agnew. The purpose of the Association is to bring together all of the name Agnew or those descended from the name Agnew to promote interest in lineage and exchange of information. An Association newsletter is published quarterly to disseminate items of Agnew interest and assist contacts with other members tracing their Agnew line. The newsletter is available to members only, and back issues are available at \$3.00 each to members and prospective members. Member queries are answered without charge.

In order to support the Association, the Board of Directors established

annual dues of \$15.00, and \$6.00 for students. Dues are payable by July 1 of each year.

Life membership in the parent Association in Scotland is \$30 in the United States and Canada.

Membership application for both the American and Scottish associations and annual dues should be sent to:

*Mrs. Lois Schieck
Apt. 105, 4615 North Park Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815*

Please make checks payable to the Agnew Association of America. For membership in the Agnew Association of Scotland, send a separate check for \$30 payable to the Agnew Association.



Agnew Association Officers

Arthur W. Agnew—Convener
Kenneth H. Agnew—Co-Convener
Lois Schieck—Secretary/Treasurer
Pat Alexander—Archivist
Dr. G. Marie Agnew-Marcelli—
Historian
Magalen Bryant—Director
Jean Schneider—Membership
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Convener Emeritus
Sir Crispin and Lady Susan Agnew
Lady Swanzie Agnew

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