

# NAMA

## NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION

Vol. 67, No. 1 & 2

To Preserve "Whate'er is left to us of ancient heritage." *T.E. Brown*

September/December 1994

## 1994 NAMA Convention

by Mary F Kelly

The 41st North American Manx Association Convention, at the Minneapolis/St Paul Airport Hilton Hotel on August 19 to 22, 1993, will long be remembered for its convenient location, excellent hotel, delicious food, stimulating programs and unforgettable people! It was so rewarding to be there. Never, on this side of the Atlantic Ocean, have I met so many people who share a love of the Isle of Man!

If we do a roll call of the visitors from the Isle of Man we are privileged to include: The Honorable James C Cain, Speaker of the House of Keys, and his wife, Muriel Cain; Basil and Helen Callow, former Mayor and Mayoress of Douglas; Tom Cashin, Past President of the IOM Natural History and Antiquarian Society, and his wife, Phyllis Cashin; Bernard Caine, Chairman of the Manx Museum and National Trust; Ellis Killey, Manager of Everymann Holidays Division of the Isle of Man Department of Tourism, his wife, Frances and their two daughter, Adelle and Elissa; Edmond Lowey, member of the Upper House of Keys of Tynwald and IOM representative at the European Common Market Community; Mr and Mrs J W S Musgrove, and Mr and Mrs Stan Stansfield. This impressive guest list made it easy for conventioners to learn about the Isle of Man directly from people who have more than a casual acquaintance with the homeland.

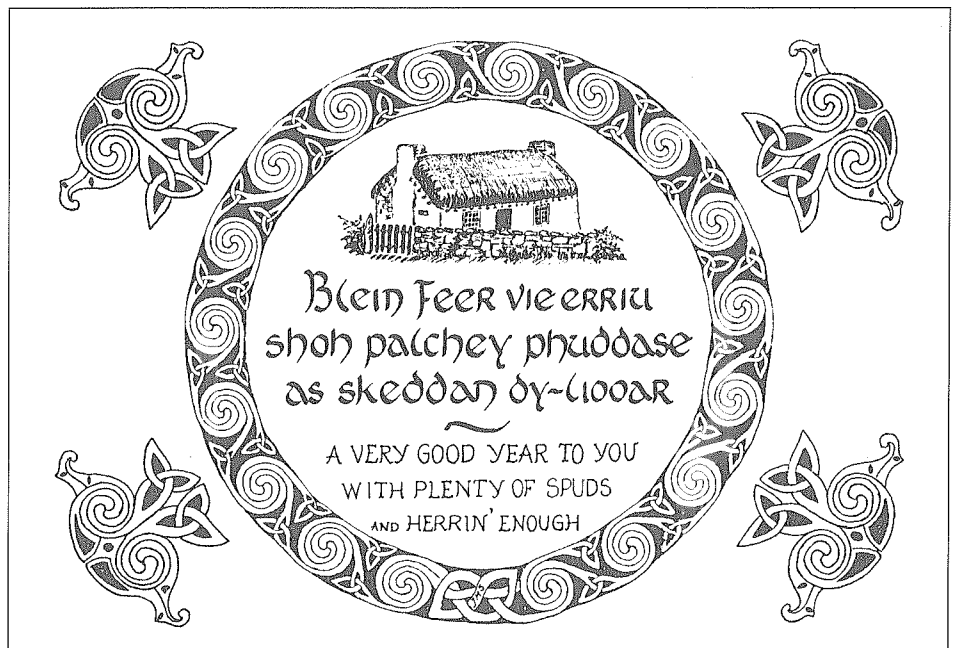
The convention registrants included Manx people from Canada and 22 different US states. We can only hope we will meet more Manx from all geographic locations in Wisconsin in 1996!

The Friday, August 19th, night events began with a relaxing hospitality hour with piano music played by Jane Karayusuf. At the dinner First Vice President Norman Gill gave his official welcome and President Ron Quayle introduced his officers and those of the Ladies Auxiliary. With regret he announced that Jim Phillips, of Victoria, BC, had resigned as 3rd Vice President. Highlights of the entertainment at the President's Reception included Basil Callow, an outstanding speaker, and the beautifully costumed Tradisean Dancers performing Manx dances to traditional instrumental music with audience participation. All of the events were unique and we felt especially privileged to view Walter Stevenson's historic "lantern" slide program (c 1930). The large lantern-type slides and the special projector were donated by Myrra

Johnson to NAMA in memory of her father, Walter Stevenson, and her mother, Doris Sale; both had spent years traveling in and around Chicago enlightening groups about the Isle of Man.

Long before we arrived at the convention site we were aware of the reason most people flock to that Bloomington, Minnesota neighborhood: it's the Mall of America. It is a true paradise for everyone interested in shopping. The early morning edition of the "Fairy Tales" in daily circulation at our door also prompted us to consider taking a walk in the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (just across the street from our hotel) or taking a side trip to the O'Shaughnessy-Frye Library at the College of St Thomas to see a special collection of Celtic materials (including many from the Isle of Man).

*Continued Page 2*



Holiday greetings from the NAMA officers

CONVENTION *Continued*

On Saturday morning I had to wonder just how many Manx members would wander off instead of attending the first business session in the hotel theatre. It was not an issue with our steadfast Manxies. The crowd exceeded the maximum capacity and the overflow filled the aisles and hallway!

The general meetings were all full of music, greetings from near and far, and reports from active North American chapters. We were pleased to hear that some chapters noted the losses of some of their older members but gained new and younger Manx participants in their activities. There were some youngsters at almost every session at this convention, which must be viewed by NAMA as a healthy sign. Some sessions, held in a room near the theatre, were specially organized to entertain and educate the youngest conventioners. Another exciting observation was that a number of families had two, three, and even four generations attending the convention. Congratulations! Why not hold your next Manx family reunion in Wisconsin in the summer of 1996?

The Ladies Auxiliary Luncheon was held in the four star Biscay Bay Restaurant. Tina Cannell, President, welcomed the 41 members and their guests. She awarded E Mae Reese of Wisconsin a set of Manx coasters for her outstanding effort sharing her Manx heritage. Her work included research and contributions to the booklet titled *Laxey, the Little Manx Church on the Hill*, which she co-authored



Past NAMA Presidents gather at the convention. From left to right: Edna Cowin, Robert Kelly, Marshall Cannell, Norman Clucas, Larry Fargher, Stan Shimmin, and Mona Haldeman.

with her brother Willard Reese in 1993. Together Mae and Willard Reese provided an interesting program on the historic church built in the early 1850s by the Manx immigrants to Wisconsin.

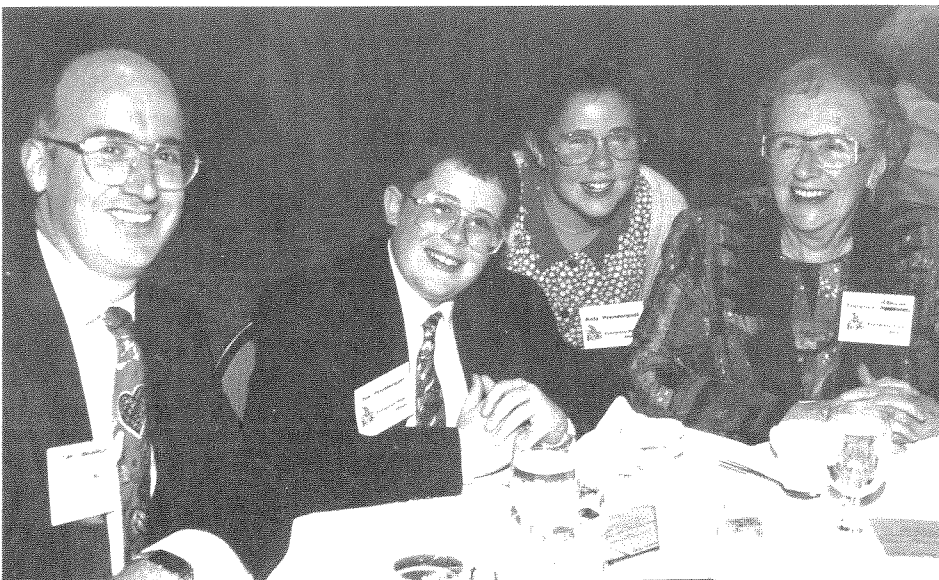
The Ladies Auxiliary and Manx Sales Tables had an abundance of arts and crafts items, books, clothing, jewelry, suncatchers, glassware, magnet, decals and much more. It was easy to find appropriate gifts for the family. Some people even won enough raffle prizes to satisfy the troops at home. Winning the *Culinary Capers NAMA Cookbook* was the limit of this writer's good fortune and she wouldn't even consider giving away her only copy.

Videos from the Isle of Man were shown early Saturday afternoon. They included the award winning "Story of Mann" that is not for sale but is now available for showing at society meetings. Next came a line-

up of three speakers including: Bernard Caine with his beautiful and enlightening slide presentation, showing all the IOM sites that are maintained by the Manx National Trust; James W Warren with his wife Paula who are especially well known speakers on genealogy; and Jack Parker, speaking on the Manx ethnic origins from ancient times. Mr Parker is an emeritus curator of the James Ford Bell Library at the University of Minnesota and a scholar of Manx origins. This was a very stimulating afternoon!

The convention photograph, which eventually became a pair of photos, was taken on the Grand Stairway on Saturday evening just before the social hour began. There we met friends and enjoyed the celestial music coming from Ruthann Ritiche's Celtic Harp. Fran Shimmin was the Mistress of Ceremonies and she delighted the audience with her cunning remarks and deft Minnesotan Language instructions. The featured speakers that evening were none other than Hon James C Cain and Edmond Lowey. Cain focused on the current events on the Isle of Man; Lowey addressed issues related to his work as the representative from the Isle of Man to the British Commonwealth of Nations. Both talks were interesting and informative. The evening ended with members listening and dancing to the wonderful Jamie Gans Trio dance band until midnight. What a party!

The next general meeting began by singing the usual national anthems, accompanied by Mona Haldeman on the piano. The Rev Devore Craine Smith led a memorial service for members who had deceased since the last convention in 1992. Robert Kelly presented resolutions commending George Curphey, Past President of NAMA for his many years of work on



Three generations from Chicago enjoy the convention: Brad, Tim, and Kathy Prendergast, and Florence Abbinanti.

the membership certificates, and Elizabeth Clucas Duncan for her 22 years of devoted service as NAMA Secretary. The President presented her with a lovely glass vase engraved with the three legs of Man.

Sunday afternoon featured two speakers. First Janell Dickinson, a local genealogist, spoke about preserving documents, photos, and how to collect oral family histories. She discussed topics to pursue, lines of questioning that would aid the genealogist in obtaining pertinent information, and addressed the legalities related to interviewing. Second, Tom Cashin, retired schoolmaster from Kirk Michael, gave a wonderful slide presentation on Manx history, facts, and myths. These diverse topics both kept the audience involved and anxious for more.

With so many earlier presentations focused upon Manx topics one wondered what could follow for our Sunday evening entertainment. Mr Ellis Killey spoke in his Manx dialect of English and delighted us with readings from TE Brown, the Manx National Poet. Then his daughter, Elissa, charmed and amazed us with her dance talent. Bryan Moon, the artist-adventurer, showed us slide photos of some of the world's most remote landscapes on Pitcairn Island. He had journeyed there in 1989, the year marking the 200th anniversary of the starting of the settlement there by the mutineers of the HMS Bounty. Prior to Moon's voyage, he researched the design of the Bounty, painted a picture of the fateful ship and then had his original reproduced in color prints that he took to Pitcairn. Before he left the Island, Moon had each print signed by descendants of Fletcher Christian and Edward Young, the Bounty mutineers. What an adventure; it took him five weeks and more than 15,000 miles. We were privileged to see his fascinating story unfold through his photo-journalism.

Monday morning's final general meeting marked the close of one term of office and the beginning of the next. President Ronald J Quayle passed the official sword, pendant and gavel on to Norman W Gill. Mary Kelly announced that the Time and Place Committee had selected July of 1996 in Madison, Wisconsin for the next NAMA Convention. Sally Dahlquist handed Mary a notebook that she had assembled about the planning of the Minnesota Convention to share with the next convention committee.

Before the wrap-up Bill Shimmin showed us his extraordinary collection of Manx flags, including some unique ver-

sions of the Manx flag only flown to mark special occasions. Joan Gill favored us with one of her favorite Manx Fairy Tales, about a giant and a lazy farmer. It was told in her delightful inimitable, award-winning style! We all look forward to hearing more.

Throughout the convention there were a series of raffles of items that ranged from travel arrangements to the Isle of Man, books, cookbooks, key rings, and much more. The many prizes insured there were many happy recipients. In general, everyone attending the 1994 NAMA Convention went home feeling like a winner in many respects. We applaud our hosts, the Minnesota Manx, and thank them for arranging such a wonderful convention. Now, we encourage you to mark your calendars and make plans to be at the exciting 1996 convention in Wisconsin.

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## Convention Speeches

It was brought to our attention that only about one fourth of the total NAMA membership is able to attend the convention and receive the benefit of the excellent speakers. So we are offering our membership the printed text of the speeches by Basil Callow, about the history of the Isle; Hon James C Cain, on recent government activities; and Jack Parker, on Manx ethnic origins from ancient times. They contain valuable information about our beloved Island. For \$3.00, to cover the cost of copying and mailing, we will send you these texts. Send your requests to the Bulletin editors, address on page 19.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 3, 1994

Greetings to everyone gathered for the International Convention of the Manx Society.

Our ancestors came from every corner of the globe, bringing a myriad of cultures, experiences, and beliefs that have shaped our nation. By preserving our ethnic heritage, each of us can provide our nation with a source of strength and tradition in a rapidly changing world.

America was founded on the principle that we all are created equal, and this solemn commitment to tolerance and freedom binds us together. Our diversity of culture enriches and broadens our American experience. As you celebrate your own heritage, you can take pride in your contributions to our great nation.

Best wishes for a memorable celebration.

*Bill Clinton*



# Manx National Heritage

*Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin*

by Stephen Harrison, Director

As Bernard Caine, the chairman of Manx National Heritage described in his address to the NAMA Convention in August, the past few years have seen an energetic period of development over recent years to develop the service and quality of the Isle of Man's statutory heritage body to a level which has attracted international attention.

Indeed, it is interesting to note that the countries of Europe which contributed so much to the development of your own great nation, are now, in heritage matters, looking to the small Island of Mann, which we all hold so dear, as an example of excellence and achievement in heritage preservation and promotion.

This development programme began in 1986, the year that marked the Centenary of the establishment of the Manx Museum by Act of Tynwald, the Island's Parliament.

This momentous year made us all, Trustees and Staff, look very hard at how we should embark upon our next century of endeavour.

Just as for everyone else in this modern world, MNH is under much more pressure, commercially, politically and socially than it was 100 years ago, and we felt that there should be a very clear new programme of development and community service established to take us through the great threshold of the new Millennium.

We decided that the best way to proceed was to take a fresh look at our heritage potential and the role we should be undertaking for the community.

Our new strategy depended on a very objective "audit" of the Manx heritage "assets" in order to assess their value now and in the future, in international terms.

Following the audit of our heritage assets, we asked ourselves, can natural sites, cultural sites and monuments, site museums and the community be made to interact in a way which provides a new and unique "sense of place".

We felt that this was particularly important at a time when the census reveals that the Manx are now an ethnic minority in their own country and the pattern of tourism is changing drastically.

Having consulted extensively with the public we discovered that even some residents in the Isle of Man were not fully aware of the full range of historic sites which remain in this unique island. Most had heard of "The Manx Museum" but few were fully aware of all the other ancient monument sites and the other eight museums we operate, including Cregneash village, the two castles and the Laxey Wheel which features so proudly on your convention letter-head.

We therefore felt a change of name was required which better reflected the unique combination of heritage assets under our care.

Following the opening of a new extension of the Manx Museum in Douglas by Her Majesty the Queen in 1989 and the complete refurbishment of Castle Rushen in the Island's old capital recreating the grandeur of the medieval Lords of Mann, our new name of "MANX NATIONAL HERITAGE" provided a tremendously popular new focus for support of our work.

There are still one or two people who refer to us by the old name of "The Manx Museum and National Trust" but the public in general now look for our new "Manx National Heritage" symbol at properties and on road signs throughout the Island as a guarantee of a high quality heritage presentation in a superb, natural countryside setting.

Above all, ours is a concept of the museum being "out there", not inside.

Whether the ancient formation of a Viking burial mound in a farmer's field, the proud ruins of Peel Castle, the modern displays at the Manx Museum or the peregrine falcon flying high over the Calf of Man, they are all inextricably part of our heritage portrayal.

This means that we have a far bigger job than most "museums" have and we consequently need more helpers and friends.

To achieve this successfully we need the help and support of everyone who cares about preserving the heritage in its countryside setting for future generations.

I have been reminded recently as Manx National Heritage has ventured into other countries of Europe to collect awards for our work, that it is often the people outside the Island who can most clearly recognise the value of our work and the need to

tenderly protect that precious natural and cultural heritage which has been passed down to us by our forebear.

This is where you can help us directly.

One of the largest private groups in the Isle of Man is "The Friends of Manx National Heritage". They are a wonderful group of supporters who help us in all kinds of ways.

They contribute to the acquisition of wonderful items for the national collection, as well as more practical items such as a fourwheel drive vehicle for our bird warden on the Calf of Man.

Both individually and corporately, they make direct donations to specific projects, such as new acquisitions or new galleries and publications.

And we also have lots of fun together!

Perhaps the most enjoyable and certainly the most creative special event last year was the premiere of a new suite of classical piano music entitled "Heritage Suite-A Tribute to the Unique Heritage of the Isle of Man".

It was composed by the famous rock-musician turned classical composer, Rick Wakeman who had been directly inspired by the Manx National Heritage sites which he had visited with his family.

The thing I find terribly hard to understand, knowing the great enthusiasm for things Manx within the North American Manx Association, is the astonishing fact that in the whole of America there are only around 20 people who have formally "signed up" to become a Friend of Manx National Heritage.

At a time when we are ready to commence, next year, our most ambitious development project ever—the creation of a large new heritage Centre to provide a dramatic portrayal of the Manx Celtic, Viking and Maritime history in an historic setting adjacent to Peel Castle—we really do need your help and support!

If you think the work of Manx National Heritage is worthwhile and important, please give us your firm support and become a friend.

It is an inexpensive and painless process!

And for a limited period, for those of you who sent your subscription of \$100 to become a "Friend" for life, or husband and wife who send a subscription of \$150 for joint life membership we are able to offer you a very special gift.

Anyone in NAMA who becomes a life member of our Friends will receive a free copy of the specially composed Heritage Suite on compact disc, together with a beautifully illustrated accompanying booklet.

Please do take advantage of this unique offer which allows us to say "Thank you" to you, in the form of this gift, for your most valued support.

Simply send your cheque to Mr Norman W Gill, North American Manx Association, 10215 38th Court North, Plymouth, MN 55441-1669, and you will quickly receive your special heritage gift, shortly followed by your new Friends membership card, newsletter, and a personal "Thank you" letter from me in the Isle of Man.

Please give your support. In this way you will be directly helping us to preserve all aspects of the Manx heritage which we all hold so dear for many generations to come.



## Minutes of NAMA Meetings

During the 1994 NAMA Convention two Executive Board and three General Membership Meetings were held. The following is a condensed, edited version of the secretary's minutes.

At the first Executive Board Meeting it was reported that the postcard membership campaign brought in 18 new members. Since September, 1993, 97 new members have joined NAMA, 70 members have not paid their dues, 49 NAMA certificates and 96 NAMA pins have been sold, and 39 membership lists sent out. Nominating, Time and Place, and Resolutions and Bylaws Committees were appointed for the convention.

After discussion it was agreed Norman and Joan Gill would make up a letter which sounded "exciting" to encourage members to pay their dues on times. On the membership form it was agreed to have a space for people to give a donation to NAMA. Mary Kelly presented samples of letters she will send out to former members to ask them to join NAMA again or give a reason for no longer being interested in membership.

At the Saturday General Membership Meeting it was announced that Jim Phillips had resigned as 3rd vice president and Elizabeth Duncan was resigning as secretary.

Helen Drom, treasurer, reported a total income of \$14,438.13 and a total expense of \$14,509.56. (Note the Convention will be repaying \$1000.00 seed money plus any profit.) The total cash account bal-



The transfer of office from Ronald Quayle to Norman Gill.

ance is \$21,680.16.

After the treasurer's report, President Quayle stated he was very pleased with the response from members, especially life members, to the request for donations for on-going expenses of NAMA.

A new committee was set up to investigate questions from members concerning convention expenses and the length of the convention.

There were reports from ten local Manx societies: San Diego, Cleveland, Chicago, Galva, Ontario, Minnesota, Northern California, Washington DC, World Manx, and Wisconsin. This year new societies have been formed in Denver and Salt Lake City.

At the Sunday General Membership Meeting a glass vase was presented to Elizabeth Duncan in appreciation of her 22 years as NAMA secretary. Robert Kelly traced the history of the many people who had served as secretary and recognized the large number of them present at the convention.

The Memorial Service, a tribute to deceased members, was lead by Rev Devore Craine Smith.

The final General Membership Meeting was on Monday. A number of reports were given. The convention committee reported that the convention appears to be a financial success. A book about all the planning of the convention had been kept and was passed on to the next convention chairperson.

Mary Kelly, president of the Ladies Auxiliary, reported that she hopes to make the auxiliary a more active, visual part of NAMA. Expect to see articles in the Bulletin regularly about the group.

Ron Quayle announced that Myrra Johnson had presented NAMA with a number of old Manx items. He stressed the importance of such items being handed down through families, or NAMA, or the Manx Museum in Douglas.

Edna Cowin has received about 500 genealogy applications but very few were completely filled out. Members should be sure to fill in all their family details, not just bits and pieces.

The committee to study the cost and length of the convention reported the following: when considering the cost of the hotel rooms keep in mind that the facility must also have adequate meeting areas, using alternate locations for sleeping accommodations was not considered a good idea; have some buffet meals rather than sit-down dinners; have a private breakfast room where all could meet; using a State Park facility for holding a convention; and providing some Friday afternoon entertainment.

Mary Kelly announced that the 1996 NAMA Convention would be held in Madison, Wisconsin, probably in July.

The slate of new officers present by the nominating committee was elected: President, Norman Gill; 1st Vice

*Continued Page 6*

President, Mary Kelly; 2nd Vice President, Don Quayle; 3rd Vice President, John Cormode; Secretary, Linda Shimmin; Treasurer, Helen Drom; Trustees, Mary Hayslett, Sally Dahlquist, and Carol Christian; Chaplain, Rev Devore Craine Smith.

The long sword, the Nickelson painting, and the President's medal of office was passed from Ron Quayle to Norm Gill. The short sword was given to the outgoing president.

The meeting appropriately ended with the singing of Ellan Vannin.

It was truly a time of Manx gathering together with the large number of members present at all the General Meetings.

At the Monday Executive Board meeting a number of items were discussed. The convention sub committee suggested having a package deal (rate) as well as listing individual activities and add some Manx heritage to the name badge. Ron Quayle announced that Eddie Lowey had spoken about the possibility of the IOM Government making available to NAMA some funds from a Lottery Trust held on the Island. These funds would be used to enlarge the horizons of NAMA, scholarship, membership development; not given to the General Fund.

Jack Cormode stated he was looking into the possibility of a grant being available because we are an ethnic, non-profit organization.

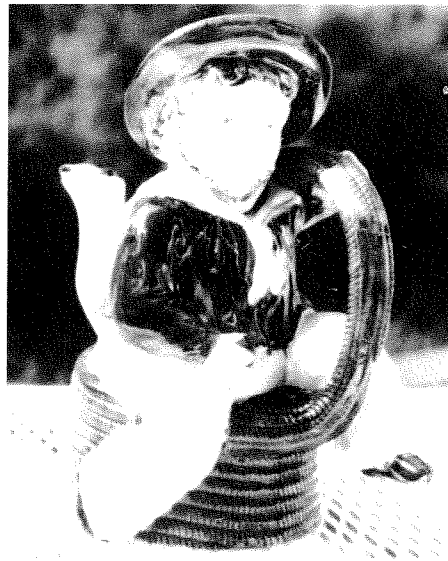
In an effort to cut costs, it was voted that past president, except the immediate past president, would not have their travel expenses to meetings reimbursed. For the other members of the Executive Board the deductible was raised to \$100.00.

If you would like a copy of the complete minutes, please send \$3.00 to cover copying and mailing costs to the Bulletin editors (address on page 19).



## Manx Antiques

I would like to suggest that Manx readers might be interested to see and read about antiques from their homeland. I am a NAMA member and have been collecting Manx items for some years. As you might expect from such a small island not many items are extant but I do have a dozen or more. I would also assume other members have family pieces to show. From these bases, you could possibly develop a program with appeal.



A Manx antique, the three legged teapot.

Enclosed is an example of what I could provide. The three-legged teapot is a Majolica ware item made in Staffordshire around 1875. It is identified on the base "W Broughton, China Room, 50 Duke St Douglas".

R Russell Fayles  
318 Pleasant Valley Ave  
Moorestown, New Jersey 08057

The Isle of Man's three-legged emblem provided a distinctive symbol to be exploited as a heraldic design or humourously, by the souvenir manufacturers. One of the earliest examples of the first is the Ackerman design 'For bead or worsted' registered by the London firm on July 1st, 1836, likely timed to celebrate Tynwald Day. The Manx Museum is fortunate to have acquired both one of the original hand-coloured charts on finely-squared paper and a panel worked from it.

Next in chronological order come the handsome Staffordshire majolica teapots in the form of three-legged men. Three types are known: the commonest, a sailor—seated on a coil of rope—holding an ensign; a sailor holding the end of the coil of rope which forms his seat (three examples known); and an apparently unique figure of a man, in top hat, boots, breeches, astride a branch. They are painted in typical majolica colours. Marked pieces bear the name of William Broughton, who took over Samuel Broughton's long-established china shop in Duke Street, Douglas, about 1885, but they were probably made by Minton, or William Brownfield's works.

They seem to have remained in production for some time and proved so popular

that some Manx retailer was moved to supply an example of the man astride the branch to a Thuringian firm for copying. From about 1880 an area in central Europe—now in Czechoslovakia and East Germany—was full of potteries catering for souvenir trade. Most of their products are unmarked but the example of the three-legged teapot now in the Manx Museum carries a gold anchor—associated with Chelsea!—and is painted in appropriately delicate colours...most unlike the robust colours of the original.

Three-legged ornaments in the fairing style, glazed with white figures with touches of gold and colour, are fairly common. The most frequently met with, probably made by Conte and Bochme, bears a shoe black's comment 'Cor, three legs! I'll charge 2d'.

Figures like the teapots proved enduringly popular and a copy was produced in the 1920s. These, also German, are less highly glazed, and are usually backed by a vase or spill-holder. It is said that such figures were then called 'Hi, Kelly's'.

These later figures tend to wear the tail coat, breeches, top hat, and even the striped stockings, adopted by Witherspoon's of Douglas on their trademark. Was this derived from a traditional costume of the Douglas seaside entertainers? The Manx Museum has been given two examples...but are seemingly unique in that they are cast in lead and have nodding heads like late nineteenth century toys.

Source: *The Manxman*, Number 2, Autumn 1975.

Let's hear from other members about their Manx antiques. Send your information and photos to the Bulletin Editors.



## Did You Know?

The twenty most frequent surnames in the Isle of Man in approximate order are: Kelly, Corlett, Quayle, Moore, Cain, Christian, Teare, Kneale, Clague, Shimmin, Quirk, Cowin, Crowley, Callow, Watterson, Crellin, Faragher, Corkhill, Collister and Bell.

Latitia Christian, wife of President John Tyler, was the granddaughter of Robert Christian who left Maughold to become an early American settler.

These are just few of the interesting bits of information on tape 15 of the Truly Manx Tales, The Isle of Man and the American Connection.

# Manx Items to Buy

## Truly Manx Tales

The fifteenth cassette tape in this series is called "The Isle of Man and the American Connection". It has been produced in response to requests to record some of the close relationships between the Island and the United States. The tape tells of the reasons for immigration and contributions made to American by Manxmen past and present. It also included lovely Manx songs, some featuring Cleveland Medal winners. The cassette has been well received on the Island and some 30 minutes of extracts from it were broadcast on Manx Radio on the morning of Tynwald.

All fifteen tapes are available for purchase at the cost of £4.99 per tape (plus postage of £1.56 for one tape, £3.26 for five tapes, £6.26 for ten tapes). The tapes are of excellent quality and truly enjoyable and informative listening. The topics range from an introduction to the Isle of Man to the various towns to history and to railroads and industry of the Island. For more information or for ordering contact Henley Crowe, 17 Inner Circle, Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles.

A cassette of unaccompanied Manx Gaelic songs has gone on sale, with profits being ploughed back into the promotion of the language. Gow Arrane, which translates simply as Sing, is available through the Manx Museum in Douglas for £6.50. The songs range from the well known to the less familiar but equally attractive. The songs' words in Manx are on the cassette's insert. The format of the cassette makes it ideal for those who are keen to learn the songs and leaves the interpretation and/or arrangement up to the individual singer, according to the producer

## Manx Books

A new book has been privately published on the Island called *Goodbye Orry*, written by Lin Corlett. The story is about the Patagonian sea lion that was born in the Curragh's Wildlife Park at Ballaugh and was named Orry by local school children. He was forced to be removed from the safety of the park and found himself in a traveling shark and piranha show in France. After a public outcry the Manx Government was forced to finance a rescue bid and Orry is now safely back in the UK.

The book relates Orry's own side of the story. He tells of people and places he

encounters that will have an influence on him and his quest for fame and fortune. Written as a light hearted and often humorous tale with a happy ending, the book is suitable for children of all ages from 9 to 99! The price to purchase is £3.50 plus £1.00 airmail postage. Contact Bayr Ny Jerrey, 33 Friary Park, Ballabeg, Isle of Man IM9 4EL, British Isles.

*Moods of Mann* is a high quality, large format, hard cover book. This special edition, a photographic essay of the Isle of Man, is 208 pages full of stunning photographs showing the Island in all its mood. The text describes the Island's history, its people and how it has adapted over the years to become a centre for international business, whilst still retaining its charm and character. The retail price is £29.95. Write to Moods of Mann Limited, RTA, PO Box 3, St Georges House, Port St Mary, Isle of Man IM9 7RT or FAX 01624 835363. Visa credit cards are accepted. Include card number and expiration date.

Onchan-based publisher Chiollagh Books has issued its first book in the field of Manx history. *Manannan's Isle: Selected Essays* is a reprint of three essays by David Craine which first appeared in 1955. This paperback sells for £4.95.

Stephen Miller, director of Chiollagh Books, said: "All of Craine's work is based on research of the original records of the Island housed in the Manx Museum library and show how diverse and detailed the historical records are for Manx history."

Two other offerings of this publisher are *Manx Folklore and Superstitions* and *Manx Folkways: A Gleaning of Writings*. The first is a collection of material gathered by the noted Celticist John Rhys on visits to the Island between 1886 and 1893. The second is material gathered by Charles Roper, W Y Evans Wentz and Sophia Morrison. Both are available for £2.55.

Ancient Celtic Christianity is documented in a new republication of *Manx Crosses* by the late Philip Kermode. First printed in 1907 and now updated with subsequent information, it amply illustrates the largest finding of Manx crosses. Kermode later became the founding curator of the Manx Museum. The new edition is published by The Pinkfoot Press and is available in hardback for £54 and in paperback for £42.

A book by John Mitchell, *At the Centre of the World*, puts the Island at the centre of ancient mysteries. The book details the background of Tynwald Day and reveals: 'Possibly in recognition of its symbolic

position, the Isle of Man was the centre of the Ancient British Mysteries and traditionally the seat of the Metropolitan Druid. Its reputation as an isle of enchantment has never entirely faded. Almost within living memory its native language prevailed, and the Celtic world of gods and heroes, spirits and seers, country shrines and customs, was the reality of everyday life. As a repository of antiquities and folklore, the Isle of Man is without parallel in Britain and Europe.' The book is published by Thames and Hudson, priced at £14.95.

*Ree Ny Marrey (Songs of the Sea)—Songs of the Isle of Man* by Fenella Bazin is a long-awaited compilation of 52 traditional manx children's songs. The words are given in Manx and English, arranged for piano, with guitar chordings and suggestions for other instruments. It is lavishly illustrated and spiral bound. The cost is £11.

Many requests ask where Manx books and other items may be purchased. The best source is the Manx Museum and National Trust, Book Mail order Department, Douglas, Isle of Man or FAX 011-44-01624-66189. They will send a current catalog upon request. Another source for books is the Lexicorn Bookshop, 63 Strand Stree, Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles. Both will accept major credit cards and mail your order promptly.

*Songs of St Francis* by Wyn Aveyard, a book of poems inspired by her years spent on the Isle of Man, is now available in the USA from Vantage Press, Inc, 516 W 34th Street, New York, NY 10001.



## Manx Quiz

These questions all relate to holiday customs on the Isle of Man. Answers on page

1. In the Isle of Man, what is meant by "The White Boys"?
2. What is "Jough-y-Nollick"?
3. To what Manx proverb did it give rise?
4. Is the "Hunt the Wren" custom unique to the Isle of Man?
5. The song refers to the wren as "King of the Birds" What is interesting about this phrase?
6. What is the Manx name given to the first person to enter one's home on New Year's Eve?
7. It is customary to entertain this person. Is anything expected of the person himself?
8. Name one other New Year's Eve custom in the Isle of Man.

## NAMA Awards

In 1978 NAMA decided we would like to present awards in the form of silver medallions to students on the Isle of Man who have made outstanding contributions to Manx culture in music, arts and crafts, Manx language, and making an outstanding contribution to the Manx community for overcoming a handicap. This year the awards were presented by Chief Minister Miles Walker on behalf of the North American Manx Association.

Victoria Karran, 18, who is at Ballakermeen High School, was honoured for her outstanding contribution to the Manx community. She is chair of the upper school and collects for various local charities as well as representing the Island at netball and hockey. Victoria, whose sister suffered from Down's syndrome, has also worked with mentally and physically handicapped children.

Castle Rushen High School pupil Heidi Ringham received her medallion for overcoming a handicap. Wheel-chair bound Heidi, 13, has spina bifida.

Stephanie Wellings, received her award for music. Stephanie, 16, is a pupil at Ramsey Grammar School.

The award for excellence in the Manx language went to Katie Lawrence, 13. Katie takes part in Manx reading competitions and can sing and play Manx music.

Also Julia Kent, 18, Castle Rushen High School, was presented with an award for arts and crafts. She will study art at Isle of Man College.

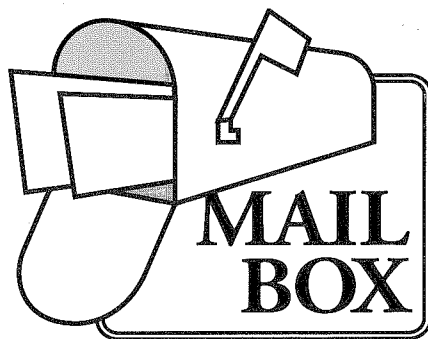
A separate award of £20 from NAMA Ladies Auxiliary was presented to Alice Fargher, 12, as the pupil who had achieved the most progress in the Manx language.

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, July 12, 1994.



### Manx Quiz Answers

1. Strolling players who performed in houses at Christmas time.
2. "Drink of Christmas" was a special Christmas brew made in the olden days.
3. "To go about like a brewing pan."
4. No, it is observed in several countries.
5. The wren is called "King of the Birds" in almost every language.
6. The Qualtagh
7. He was supposed to bring a gift, otherwise it means bad luck.
8. The floor was swept towards the hearth; to sweep towards the door would be sweeping good luck out of the house for the whole year.



I just received my NAMA certificate, it's beautiful. I've always had an interest in my Manx heritage. My Grandfather and his brother and sisters always taught me to be proud of my Manx roots. They came to the United States as very young children around 1910. My Great Aunt Muriel, the only one left of the family, has been to the Island several times and always tells me of its beauty and charm. She tells me that on one trip she located the farm where she was born. I hope to make that trip some day!

Where can I locate a reproduction of the Manx Coat of Arms, in original colors?

Matthew C Clucas  
PO Box 7, 1200 Third Court  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

I have just finished reading Peter Corris' first historical novel, *The Gulliver Fortune*, published March 1990, and found it very entertaining. Peter Corris was born in Stanwell, Victoria, in 1942 and is the grandson of Robert Henry and Elizabeth Corris who emigrated from the Isle of Man to Australia in about 1910. Peter has worked as a lecturer and researcher in history, as well as a freelance writer and journalist, specializing in sports writing. O'Fear is the twelfth novel in a series featuring a Sydney-based private eye Cliff Hardy. Perhaps our members might enjoy reading his novels.

Jayne A Broestl  
Westlake, Ohio

It is always a great joy to meet and welcome Manx folk from across the seas and in the past year we have greeted Homecomers from South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, North America and the UK. Please let the World Manx Association (WMA) know if you intend to visit the Island.

Good health, peace and prosperity to you all, may we always share the bonds of family, friendship and our Manx heritage.

Win Livingstone,  
WMA President

This is to let you know that my mother, Edna Howard, died October 1992 at the age of 94.

I was just thinking the other day that I had not seen a NAMA Bulletin for some time and then the letter came from Mary Kelly. Please reinstate the membership and change it to my name.

Mother looked forward to getting the Bulletin and filed them neatly in notebooks for reference. She was interested not only because she was half Manx, but because she had a fifty year hobby of genealogy and pursued that actively until her death.

Lyle M Howard  
Portland, Oregon

My husband suggested I pass along a hint for the Bulletin concerning reading difficult tombstones. We have been helping our local genealogy society to publish a new listing of the stones in our county. Use a spray can of shaving foam, and a squeegee to go over the lettering. It really brings it out, helping one to read it or take a good picture. It will not hurt the headstone, and washes off with the rain.

Carol Jacob  
Defiance, Ohio  
(We received this same tip from Clarence Creer at the convention.)

Christmas Greetings and all best wishes for 1995 to NAMA members from the NAMA members in the Isle of Man and England.

Regional Director  
Noreen Cottier  
Peel, Isle of Man

We were delighted to see Don and Marge Weber at the NAMA Convention. Marge was co-chairperson with Mona for the San Diego Convention in 1982, and has since had a series of serious illnesses. It was wonderful that she was able to be in Minneapolis.

Ray and Mona Haldeman  
Avon Lake, Ohio

## UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

Donald R Quayle, the newly elected 2nd Vice President of NAMA, was born and raised in Utah, educated in Utah and Ohio, is married with five children and eleven grandchildren. And they all



know they are Manxmen and proud of it.

Professionally, his entire career was spent in broadcasting with the bulk of it being in the private sector, Public Radio and Television. He worked at the local level at stations in Utah, Ohio and Massachusetts and the national level with the National Educational Television in New York and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting in Washington. The best time in his career was being the first President of National Public Radio when they began a program called "All Things Considered", which is still on the air after twenty three years. He is retired and working on things Manx and other amusements for his children and grandchildren.

Don's grandfather was born on the IOM on a farm called Shenharra, located on the Peel road just a wee bit beyond St Johns going towards Peel. Grandfather was converted by a Mormon Missionary at the age of 19. He eventually made his way to Utah. Charlie and Molly Cain now live at Shenharra and most of Don's brothers and sisters visited there during the NAMA Convention in 1992. Don's fifth cousin, Robert Quayle, former clerk of the House of Keys, and his wife Clare and five children have visited Don and his wife Vonn in Washington and Don and Vonn have been in their home in Patrick three or four times. Robert's great grandfather and Don's grandfather were brothers. Robert can see Shenharra from his rooftop.

Don has been a member of the Washington Manx Society for many years and has functioned as Treasurer and Secretary. The latter is a position he still holds.

Don has been on the Isle of Man on five occasions and plans to spend more time there in the future. He says if you are kind to him and consent to buy him a drink, he will tell about his disastrous experience with the Manx Faeries!

Carol Christian, the new NAMA Trustee, is very proud of her Manx heritage. Her father, Thomas Fargher Christian was born in Ramsey on May 2, 1895. He passed away on December 4, 1983 at the age of 88. He trained in the IOM to be a farmer, the eldest son, William was a carpenter.

In 1912 he left the IOM for Alberta to join his brother and farm, but that was not to be. In 1915 he joined the Canadian Army, went overseas and fought in France for a long time. When he was wounded, he asked to be returned to the Guildford (England) Hospital, as his sister Ivy was a nurse there. He left the army in 1919 and

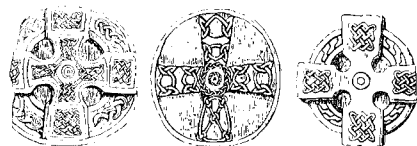
lived in Montreal, as Carol's mother's family had moved there from Alberta.

Carol's grandfather, William Henry Christian died August 11, 1913 at Medicine Hat, Alberta. Her grandmother and two aunts are all buried at Maughold Cemetery.

Carol worked for two companies: J Walter Thomson in advertising from 1942 to 1968, then joined Cyanamid Canada Inc in 1968 and retired in 1986. She is enjoying her retirement time. Her only complaint is that some weeks are not long enough.

Carol and her Dad attended their first NAMA Convention in 1982 at San Diego, California. Since that time she has been lucky enough to attend all the following ones.

She is active in the recently reorganized Ontario Manx Society.



## Chaplain's Corner

The Manx are a remembering people. Part of our nature as being human is our ability to *remember* and to plan our future accordingly. We *remember* our history with pride, tracing it from the stone age and prehistoric ages through the Celtic and Christian eras. Each year on July fifth we remember the founding of the oldest continuing parliamentary democracy in 979 AD at Tynwald. We remember our traditions through stories around the campfires, legends, fairy tales, listening at our parents' knee. We remember our faith from generation to generation even as the Bible in its earliest sources began as an oral tradition and then became written memories.

In the fourth commandment we are reminded to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy" (Ex 20:8) and "You shall remember the Lord your God...for it is he who gives you power to get wealth..." (Deut 8:18) and "Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth... (Eccl 12:1).

Paul proclaims, "Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descended from David..." (2 Tim 2:8). We remember Christ's birth at Christmas. We follow Jesus' inviting command each time we take communion, our Lord's Supper: "Do this

in remembrance of me." (1 Cor 11:24)

Our ancestors have passed this faith on to us from generation to generation by remembering and reminding us. Many apply themselves to these processes of remembering—historians, writers, poets, genealogists, keepers of family histories—and to them we offer our thanks and commit ourselves to doing all we can to contribute to the process, especially as we have today such awesome systems of preserving and transferring information through print, photographic and computer means. We are grateful for the rich heritage we have been helped to remember and for the many opportunities to pass it on.

Rev Devore Craine Smith



## CATS' CORNER

A recent letter to Dear Abby asked if it was possible for a cat to impregnate a rabbit. It was followed by this letter: "Enclosed was a picture of a "cabbit" which looks like a cat on the front half and the hindquarters look like a rabbit. Pictures don't lie. Signed Proof from Tampa, Florida". Abby checked with Dr Erwin D David, DVM, who said interspecies breeding is genetically impossible. An explanation for "cabbit" sightings was the Manx cat; it has no tail—just a stump similar to a rabbit's. In addition, it has a broad, round rump, and its hind legs are longer than its forelegs, giving it a rabbit-like posture and a hopping gait.

From the *Isle of Man Examiner*, September 6, 1994: A reader wanted to know how the cats lost their tails and whether they were peculiar to the Isle of Man.

Breeder Jane Hellman, from Dyfed Wales, said, "Legend has it that the Manx cat lost its tail when it arrived late for embarkation on Noah's Ark and the door closed as it leaped aboard.

"There's a persistent story that tailless cats arrived on the Isle of Man from ships of the Spanish Armada wrecked in the area.

"In fact tailless cats aren't unique to the Isle of Man but are a natural mutation found in cats all over the world."

She added; "The occurrence of tailless cats is high on the Isle of Man because the restrictive nature of island living means the cats there have limited bloodlines.

"Manx cats have been specifically bred since at least the start of the 18th century. The painter Turner was fond of them."



## 1994 NAMA Convention Attendees

ARKANSAS: Ross Guilliet  
 ARIZONA: John and Kathryn Hughes,  
 Myrra Johnson  
 CALIFORNIA: John Cormode, Helen and  
 Lloyd Drom, Lawrence Fargher, Marion Kelly,  
 Barb Ramindino, Devore and Ruth Smith,  
 Don and Marge Weber, Sandra Archibald  
 White  
 CANADA: Carol Christian, Mona Cleator  
 Horrocks, Jean Glass, D Edna Kee, Dorothy  
 Kinrade, Hilda Penrice, William Stanley and

Joyce Shimmin, Robert Watterson  
 COLORADO: Albert Scarffe  
 FLORIDA: Louise and Virgil Gehlbach,  
 Marion Donohue  
 ILLINOIS: Florence Abbinanti, Edgar and  
 Barbara Brown, Clarence and Mona Creer,  
 John and Barbara Dobbertin, Robert and Doris  
 Friend, Dorothy Gawn, Ben and Doris  
 Gehlbach, Robert and Jean Kelly, Russell and  
 Shirley Kelly, Mr and Mrs Brad Prendergast,  
 Tim and Katy Prendergast, Emily Robson  
 INDIANA: Donald and Nadine Poley,  
 Robert and Eleanor Quayle  
 IOWA: Virginia Rohwer, Mona Wright

ISLE OF MAN: James and Muriel Cain,  
 Bernard Caine, Basil and Helen Callow, Phyllis  
 and Tom Cashin, Ellis, France, Adele, and  
 Elissia Killey, Edmond Lowey, Jack and  
 Winifred Musgrove, Stan and Edith Stansfield  
 KENTUCKY: Audrey Dorton  
 MARYLAND: Robert and Sally  
 Heckendorn, Edyth Schoenrich  
 MASSACHUSETTS: Marshall and Tina  
 Cannell  
 MICHIGAN: Robert and Anne Cording,  
 George Cromer  
 MINNESOTA: LaJean Anderson, Ginger  
 and Jim Anderson, Pat Boehne, Judy and Eric



Brindley, Donald Cain, Warren and Eva Mase Cleator, Katie and Chris Cox, Sally, Eric, and Kali Dahlquist, Patricia Dalager, Dorothy Engel, Betsy Fennema, Norman and Joan Gill, Sally Guillet, Mary Heltsley, John and Harriet Hodgson, Lucille Issel, Heather and Norbert Johnson, James Kellen, Lois Lace, Mike and Audrey McClellan, Barbara Renman, David and Merrie Schintgen, Lola Schornirch, Jill Seivert, Bill and Fran Shimmin, Linda Shimmin, June Sibell, Kirk and Kathy Simpson, Merle and Rosamond Simpson, John and JoAnne Skillicorn, Tim, Gina, Kezian, Timmy and Benjamin Swales, Jo Teare,

Marjorie and Rachel Trihus, Marion Trout  
 MISSOURI: John Cleator, Norman Clucas  
 MONTANA: Eleuthera Anderson, Thomas Anderson, Jr, Thomas R Anderson III  
 OHIO: A Thomas and Alice Cannell, Edna Cowin, Elizabeth Duncan, Ray and Mona Haldeman, Carol and John Jacob, Norman and Ingrid Standish  
 OKLAHOMA: Clarence Collister, Sr, Kaye Cradduck  
 PENNSYLVANIA: William and Eleanor Nealy  
 SOUTH DAKOTA: Jon and Nila Boone  
 TEXAS: Carrie Gehlbach

VIRGINIA: Ronald and Margaret Quayle  
 WASHINGTON: Casper and Betty Bruno  
 WISCONSIN: Doris and Norman Alff, Carrie and Erika Anderson, Dan and Donna Christian, Frank Evans, Douglas, Flora, Gregory and Lee Anne Flygt, Connie Flygt, Joel Kelly Halpop, Irving and Hasel Kelly, Mary Kelly, Pamela Kelly, Richard, Jody, and James Morey, Joan Ogden, Calvin and Virginia Quayle, Mae Reese, Willard Reese, Mona Voutila  
 WYOMING: Shirley Wulf



# Family History Conference

by E W Q Cleator

In September, the Isle of Man Family History Society hosted the Autumn Conference of the British Federation of Family History Societies. This is a twice yearly Conference which also incorporates the Federation Council Meeting. There is a waiting list to host such Conferences and the Society applied for this year's event three years ago to coincide with the Society's 15th anniversary celebrations.

The Conference weekend was held at King William's College, Castletown, which opened in 1833 and provided a magnificent historic background. The Conference theme was "A Tide in the Affairs of Mann" and it tracked the relationships and connections between the Island and neighbouring islands in the Irish Sea basin. The Society was fortunate to engage the services of excellent lecturers and experts in their respective fields. The Conference was held from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th with lectures on Saturday and Sunday. They covered Manx genealogy; Ireland, Man and the Irish Sea; historic and ancestral connections; Cumberians and Liverpool, a Study in Migration; Manx Surnames in their Gaelic Content; Recent Developments in Scottish and Scot Genealogy; Irish Sea Traders in the 17th Century; and Cumbria and the Isle of Man, Historical and Genealogical Links. The lecturers were Nigel Crowe, Fergus Gillespie, Deputy Hersco of Ireland, Peter Park, Rev Robert Thompson, Dean Hunter LDS British Isles Specialist from Utah, Dr Roger Dickenson and Dr Angus Winchester. All the lectures were of the highest standard, informative, interesting and were well received by the delegates.

On the Friday evening there was an informal banquet supper in the Barrovian Hall to welcome the guests and delegates followed by an Isle of Man video evening. On the Saturday evening it was the Gala Birthday Banquet, again in the Barrovian Hall to celebrate the Society's Anniversary. The royal toast was proposed by our patron Sir Charles Kerruish, President of Tynwald; the toast to the Society by Colonel Ian Swinnerton, President of the British Federation; and the toast to the guests by Nigel Crowe, Chairman IOMFHS. The menus were printed in Manx Gaelic by the secretary which created much interest and sought after sou-

venirs. The after dinner entertainment was provided by "Staa" and "Cooidjagh Caarghyn", a combined group of young people who sing in Manx Gaelic mostly unaccompanied and play various traditional instruments. The acoustics of the splendid Barrovian Hall superbly aided the singers and they were received with much acclaim by the delegates. So much so that the President Ian Swinnerton, whose ancestors were engaged in building the college, persuaded them to sing in the Common Room afterwards informally such favorites as "Ellan Vannin", much to the delight of the delegates and our overseas Manx visitors.

Well over 100 delegates and Society members attended the conference from England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, USA, Canada, Australia, and even Egypt. The Isle of Man Tourist Board provided invaluable help and copious quantities of wine which was used with great effect to further the traditional Manx hospitality. The College catering was five star plus and combined to make this conference a resounding success and one which will be remembered for years to come. The Federation have asked the Society to consider putting on another "do" in the near future.

The organizing committee had worked very hard for two years to stage this event and with a small army of volunteers who performed so admirably over the weekend, to make it one of the most friendly and rewarding conferences. But one lady deserves special mention, Miss Noreen Cottier, also a NAMA stalwart, who coped with all the accommodation and travel details single handedly and still arranged the delegate "goodie" presentation packs. Her training with NAMA put her in good stead! She has now retired from the Society's Librarianship at September's AGM and in recognition of her services was unanimously awarded honorary life membership. Her last act as librarian was to pass to me the recognition certificate she received from NAMA on behalf of the Society for our work in assisting NAMA members with their Manx genealogy. On behalf of the Society please accept our sincere thanks for this wonderful token of your esteem. It will be duly framed and displayed with honour in our Peel Library.

We have now come back down to earth and into our monthly winter lecture season. But now that we have opened the door so to speak with our neighbouring Islands, our summer outings will hopefully take on a more adventurous theme. We

have been invited to visit the Genealogist Office in Dublin and have been offered the use of other Societies' premises in Liverpool and London if we wish to put on seminars for our UK members. This is of course a very feasible option during the summer months with the introduction of the "Sea Cat" ferry service.

May I on behalf of the Isle of Man Family History Society extend to all NAMA members our very best wishes for Christmas and may the New Year bring us all good luck, good health and many happy times meeting fellow family historians and good Manx folk.

Editor's Note: We regret that the Fax received was not clear and we apologize for any misspellings.

## Manx in Idaho

'I don't want to go to Idaho' goes the first line of an old Manx music hall song, but that's not true for two young Manx women. Jacqui Kneen of Ramsey and Joanne Craine of Peel, will be spending a year at the University of Idaho. Out of thirty-five candidates they were the winners of the Ella Olesen Scholarship which is awarded annually.

Ella Olesen, whose father was Danish and mother was Manx, was a former registrar of the university. She made a provision in her will enabling two girls from the Isle of Man and one from Denmark to have the opportunity of attending University of Idaho with the aim of fostering international understanding.

## Our Own People

Barbara and John Dobbartin visited the Isle of Man in June, and enjoyed good weather. By contacting Noreen Cottier before they came over they were able to visit the home where Barbara's ancestors (Bridson and Maddrell) lived. The Dobbartins also enjoyed their first NAMA Convention in August. During their visit to the Island they also met Susanne Corkill, who hoped to spend the summer in Douglas, but was only able to stay for a month. As both Shirley and Barbara live in Illinois, they hoped to meet again at a Chicago Manx Society gathering later this year.

John Quine of Tallahassee, Florida visited the Island in July looking for informa-

tion about Quine and Kelly ancestry. Another visitor was Dale Myers from San Diego, who had Cottier ancestry, but not related to Noreen.

Two of our NAMA members, Eleanor Gawne of Framingham, MA, and Mona Horrocks of Etobicoke, Ontario, attended the Family History Conference in September at King William's College, and stayed on the Island for a few days holiday.

Noreen Cottier is going to be traveling in the USA from November to January 1995, so will not be sending any Christmas cards, but may be in touch with friends by post card!

## Membership Recruiting

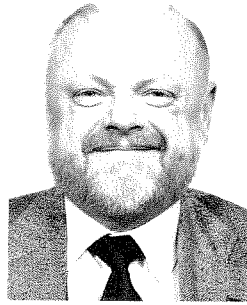
In answer to our membership drive last year, we have several winners to announce. For the most new members, seven, the top award goes to Mary E Hayslett of Alexandria, Virginia. Also receiving top honors is George Clucas of San Luis Obispo, California for his mailings to the many people subscribing to the Family History Society who were not members of NAMA.

The following NAMA members recruited at least one new member: Mrs Imogene Clarke of Harbor Springs, Michigan; John Cleator of Florissant, Missouri; Betty Colville of Douglas, IOM; Ross Guillet of Mount Home, Arkansas; Dr and Mrs James Hessler of Wooster, Ohio; John Hughes of Tucson, Arizona; Myrra Johnson of Scottsdale, Arizona; Ken Kneen, Edina, Minnesota; Robert Nelson, McGregor, Minnesota; Mrs Alberta Storey of Cincinnati, Ohio; Barbara Tompkins of Kirkville, New York; and Mr and Mrs Robert White of Goddard, Kansas.

A very special thank you for your efforts! What about the rest of our members?

Do you have Manx friends or family members who are not members of NAMA? We will be happy to send them a complimentary copy of the NAMA Bulletin and a membership form. Or better yet, why not give them a gift of a one year membership.

There was no award given to a society as none appeared to have had an extensive drive to recruit new members.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow! Now that our very successful 1994 NAMA Convention has been completed, it's time to get back to the normal duties of the NAMA President.

First, I'd like to take this opportunity to once again thank my co-chair Sally Dahlquist, my wife Joanie, the NAMA Executive Committee, and The

Manx Society of Minnesota members for all their help and support in putting on the convention. I would also like to extend my sincerest gratitude to our guest speakers from the Isle of Man and the USA who made the convention a real Manx experience. And finally, to the NAMA members who supported the convention by attending or by financial support through donations, raffle ticket purchases, or souvenir booklet advertisements. For what would the convention have been without your enthusiastic participation. We have been overwhelmed by the number of positive comments received.

Just a few facts about the convention that might interest you. It is difficult to name an exact number of those attending because it varied so much. There were about 160 paid registrations, all speakers and their families were invited guests, plus there were 15 children in attendance. At each of the evening dinners and programs there were a number of paid guests, with Saturday evening being the largest with almost 200 people in attendance. The registration fee was used to cover printing and mailing costs, convention badges, convention souvenir cups, dinners for speakers and their families, and rental of audio-visual equipment. The entertainers, afternoon workshop speakers, and Bryan Moon were all financed by donations. From the raffle and sales table it looks like we will recognize a profit of nearly \$4000.00 for the NAMA treasury.

As your new President I think I should make a statement on some of the goals for the coming two years.

The first one, as you may have guessed, is to continue the on going efforts of our past Presidents to recruit new members, in order to keep our Association strong and vibrant. This is a constant battle, but a most important one. One that requires the help of all our present membership. Have you thought of giving a yearly or life membership to a friend or family member as a holiday gift? A special thanks to 1st Vice President Mary Kelly on a successful mailing to recently lapsed members which has resulted in a number of renewed memberships.

Second, we want to continue to improve the NAMA Bulletin so that it meets the needs of all our membership. We greatly appreciate all your input and welcome it. Let us know what you want to see in the Bulletin.

Third, I would like to give added support to our Manx Societies in their local endeavors. It is from strong local societies that NAMA can continue to grow. However, I am not quite sure what all might be needed here. Therefore, I am asking for your suggestions as soon as possible.

In closing, I would like to say what an honor and privilege it is for me to be the President of the North American Manx Association. Little could I have imaged, when growing up learning about the Isle of Man from my Manx grandparents, that such a thing could ever happen.

May the coming holiday season bring peace and joy to you and your family.

*Norm*  
Norman W Gill  
President

# SOCIETY NEWS

## Colorado

Two meetings have been held by the Colorado Manx group in Denver. The first meeting was on November 15, 1993 with 15 people present. Slides were shown of the Isle of Man, and backgrounds of those present were discussed.

The second meeting was a pot-luck supper held on May 20, 1994, with 18 people present. The video "The Story of Mann" was shown, and Manx greetings and places were discussed. Mrs Shelia Kent was elected president of the group. Other officers will be elected later. The group plans to affiliate with NAMA. A list of potential members has been sent by NAMA to Mrs Kent. The Colorado group plans to meet again in the fall of the year.

## San Diego

Tynwald Day was celebrated in San Diego on July 10. Our society held an open house that day at the Cottage of England in Balboa Park. We take this opportunity each year to educate visitors about the Isle of Man. Refreshments were served, questions answered and a video of the IOM was shown. Marge Frederick, Doris Dobbel and Devore and Ruth Smith were hosts.

Twenty members and guests met at the home of Robert and Millie Kermeen on a HOT August 14th afternoon. Rev Devore Smilth led us in a brief memorial service for Katherine Garrett who passed away July 20. Katherine was a very generous lady who will be greatly missed. The Garrett children, Nancy, Jody, Dale and Patrick were guests and it was so good to meet them.

Ernie Hughes visited and is interested in researching his grandfather, Lewin, who he believes was from Lonan, IOM.

Lou and Faith Vick were full of enthusiasm as they shared their experiences on their recent Isle of Man trip.

Millie served wonderful refreshments as we became better acquainted with our guests and explored questions about genealogy research.

After a very successful convention in Minneapolis, Basil and Helen Callow came to San Diego to visit Helen's brother

and to see the sights. On September 3, 13 of our members gathered at the home of Devore and Ruth Smith to welcome the Callows. What a good afternoon we had talking about mutual friends on the Island. It seemed "a small world after all".

October 9 we met again at the Harrison home for our bimonthly meeting. We had a good visit in spite of record heat. Devore Smith played the audio tape of the Manx Homecoming of 1927.

## Minnesota

The summer meeting of the Manx Society of Minnesota was held on Tynwald Day, July 5, 1994, at Kaffe Stuga in Bloomington, Minnesota. Seventeen members and guests gathered at 7:00 pm for a delicious meal, a brief business meeting and program. We welcomed two new members, Bill and Elaine Gill from Northfield.

Vice President Joan Gill opened the meeting with a greeting to all and a brief history of the Tynwald ceremony and fair. A brief report was given of our February meeting and a thank you to Lajeane Anderson for paying for the Minnesota ad in the NAMA Convention Booklet. A short excerpt was read from the WMA newsletter to encourage those traveling to contact Manx in the areas they visit, especially the Isle of Man. Those who worked on the Castle Rock Manx cemetery in May reported that most of the large trees and bushes have been cut, but small plants/weeds continue to thrive. Work will continue on this project. A review of the convention activities was given to encourage members to attend. Raffle tickets were sold. Several Celtic events coming to the areas were announced and it was voted that our society would again take part in the Celtic Festival Weekend at Murphy's Landing with an informational booth and a talk on Manx Folklore given by Joan Gill.

For our program we had the opportunity to listen to the fifteenth and latest in the series of audio tapes Truly Manx Tales. This tape is titled "The Isle of Man and the American Connection". It told of several reasons for emigration to the US, the contributions of numerous Manxmen to

the America's growth and development, and had some marvelous musical selections by two of the Cleveland Medal winners. It was interesting to hear a Manx voice telling American history and fun to hear so many of our own family names mentioned.

Our fall meeting was October 22 at a local library. About 15 members and friends were present. New NAMA President Norman Gill and Secretary Linda Shimmin were introduced and spoke about their goals and roles in the national organization. It was decided that our local society take the necessary legal steps to become trustees of the abandon Manx cemetery near Castle Rock, Minnesota. Jim Anderson volunteered his assistance.

The winner of our elementary scholarship contest, Caroline Engel of Perham, Minnesota, read her story of why the Manx cat doesn't have a tail and shared her drawing of a Manx cat. The runners up were Mary Lajeane Anderson III of Bozeman, Montana and Lucy Eakle of Kentucky.

Our next meeting will be at 10:00 am on January 21, 1995, at the O'Shaughnessy-Frye Library on the campus of the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul. We will have an orientation session by staff members of the Special Collection section of the library which has an extensive Celtic collection, including many Manx items. Several of the Manx books date from the 1800s.

Ollick ghenall erriu as blein feer vie!  
(A merry Christmas on ye, and a very good year.)

## Ontario

The Ontario Manx have had a very busy summer. In May we were fortunate to be able to see some slides of the Isle of Man that John Collister of Douglas brought with him when he was here in Toronto for his sister's wedding. We were in touch with as many local members as we could and had a very pleasant evening in the lounge of Bob Watterson's apartment building.

In June we had a going away party for Molly Kelly at the home of Margaret and

Edmund Roche. Molly has retired from teaching and has returned to the Isle of Man to live. We had a delicious pot luck supper, played a few games and presented Molly with a gift. We will miss Molly, but we wish her all the best on her retirement.

Sunday July 24th was our Annual Picnic, and what a day! The weather was perfect for our usual egg and shoe kicking races. Plaques were presented to the youngest in attendance which went to 2 1/2 year old Megan Caveen, the oldest went to 83 year old Pat Kendall and also to the furthest traveled went to Maybelle and David Cowin of Coboura, Ontario.

We were all very sadden in June with the passing of one of our very dedicated members Brenda (Creer) Richardson. If it was at all possible, even with her very serious illness, Brenda did her best to attend the meetings and any activities. We will all miss Brenda very much.

The Ontario Manx finished their summer with another great Corn Roast hosted once more by Lil and Pat Kendall of Richmond Hill, Ontario.

Our Fall Meeting was held Sunday October 23rd at the home of Margaret Roche, with a very good turn out. We welcomed two new members, Mrs Allison Buffett and sister Mandy from Hamilton, Ontario.

We were all very saddened at the passing of one of our most respected and dedicated members, Tommy Cubbon on October 14. Tommy was not just a member but a very good friend to us all in the Society. We will all miss Tommy very much.

The Ontario Manx would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Nollick Vannit as Blein Noa Feer Vie.

## World Manx Association

Before I start on the activities of the BWMA, I must convey to your new President the congratulations of all of us in the WMA on your election. We send our best wishes to you and your wife Joan for a happy and enjoyable term of office.

The main events of the past few months centred around Tynwald Day, the Annual Gathering and Dinner was held in the Masonic Hall, Douglas on Monday 4 July when, including visitors and guests, 140 were present. We were pleased to have with us the Mayor and Mayoress of Douglas, Councilor Raina Chatel and June Craine. It was a unique second appearance for the Mayor who had attend-

ed the previous year as Mayoress when her husband was the mayor. We were again wonderfully entertained by Karen Johnson, the Cleveland Medalist for the second year running, who finished with a beautiful performance of 'Ellan Vannin'. So far as I am aware the only visitors present from North America were Fran and Bill Thorpe from Ormond Beach, Florida. Bill commented that he was glad we were celebrating Independence Day in such a grand manner. The UK societies were well represented and we also had visitors from Australia and New Zealand.

In the Homecomers Tent on Tynwald Day we exhibited all the pictures and poems on Manx topics sent in by primary school children for the competition that we had organised. The judges were Martin Faragher and Victor Kneale who also presented the prizes. Due to the very late announcement of the competition, we only had one overseas entry from Haydn Cox in New Zealand who was awarded a 'Commended' certificate. We are running the competition again next year, full details will be announced later, and we would very much like to have some North American entries. Visitors to the Tent included Helen S Vitola from Philadelphia, John Peers from Toronto, Michael, Barbara and Alex Clague from Gloucester, Virginia and Marion Orr from Toronto.

Our Annual Church Service was held this year in the Maughold Parish Church which was preceded by afternoon tea in the Viking Hotel, Ramsey. Churches throughout the Island had been holding a festival of flower decorations and many organisations had provided beautiful flower arrangements. Maughold Church had a WMA display which was much admired.

On Saturday 22 October we assembled in the Barrovian Hall at King William's College for our annual TE Brown luncheon. The toast to the 'Immortal Memory' was given by Mrs Rene Savage. Mrs Savage commented that it was most appropriate that we were meeting in the College that TE Brown had attended as a pupil and where, later, he was Vice-Principal before going to Clifton College. In her address Mrs Savage quoted from various poems concluding with part of 'The Manx Witch' in Manx dialect.

Throughout the summer there have been the usual coach outings to various parts of the Island. These are always thoroughly enjoyed and are a very important part of our activities.

May I wish you all, on behalf of myself

and the WHA, a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and an equally Happy, Peaceful and Prosperous New Year.

## Wisconsin

The Wisconsin Manx Society met October 23, at Heritage House, Madison, with 30 present. After a Smorgasbord Dinner the meeting opened with the Manx National Anthem. Each attending introduced themselves giving their Manx connections. Russell and Shirley Kelly of the Galva Society invited us to attend their next meeting. This couple has been on our list of Friends and now have joined us. They have made many fine contributions to our group and we especially welcome them.

A short report was given by some of the officers on business of the organization. President Doris Alff gave a progress report on what has been done thus far on our tax exempt status. Mary Kelly, NAMA's 1st Vice President, gave us a progress report on beginning plans for '96 NAMA Convention to be held in Wisconsin. The first planning meeting was held in September with two more scheduled for November and December. They are held at possible Madison convention sites. Mary also explained the Ladies Auxiliary of NAMA of which she is serving as president. Jody Morey has been appointed chair of our nominating committee for new officers to be elected at the Spring Meeting. We will be trying a meeting place change. **It is set for Sunday, April 23, 1995 at the Holiday Inn South East, Madison, located off US Hwy 12, east of the intersection with Interstate 90.**

For our program, Fran Remeike, one of our charter members, gave an interesting presentation on "Searching for Ancestors". She emphasized the importance of jotting down everything you know about your family history before beginning actual research. She suggested starting out by interviewing older members of families, using a tape recorder. Oral history can be a very important part of your information and can add interesting and colorful stories to your collection. Sometimes it is important to get more than one family member's recollection. A booklet, "Major Genealogical Record Sources in the Isle of Man", a research paper prepared by The Genealogical Society in Salt Lake City, was made available to all families attending. Many of these records are available at the Mormon Family History Library and its branch libraries located around the coun-

*Continued Page 16*

try. Fran gave a live demonstration using her 92 year old aunt, whose mother, Isabell Cannell, came from Kirk Michael, IOM, to show us how to interview to obtain information needed.

## Vancouver

On behalf of the Vancouver Manx Society, PRESIDENT TERRY McCAFFREY extends to all warm wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

This past year has been busy. Our Spring Tea, held in May was a great success. Everyone was pleased to meet for the first event of the year. It was unfortunately the last event attended by long time member, MRS HELEN PHILLIPS. Helen was born in Vancouver on April 21, 1906. Her parents, Mr and Mrs Robert Greggor, were among a group who formed the Vancouver Society in 1908. Robert Greggor (her father) was elected as the First President. Helen was a loyal member of our group. She will be missed. Her memorial service was held in June at the Church for the Deaf where Helen and her late husband, WENDELL, had been members. To her family and friends, we extend our sympathy.

In August, TERRY and JOAN McCAFFREY entertained MR and MRS RON KILLEY at an evening "Cooish". Ron was here as a member of the Manx contingent to the Commonwealth Games, held in Victoria, BC. In conjunction with the Games, a group of Vancouver Manx went to Victoria where a luncheon for the Manx team was held at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club. A great time was had by one and all reminiscing and enjoying the festivities of the Games. We were delighted to see on the television the Manx flag flown alongside the flags of other Commonwealth countries.

The Fund-raiser this year for our Benevolent Fund was a yard sale held at the home of ANGUS and JUDITH GILLON, Burnaby. The committee members gathered to assist with the sale and a fun time was had by all.

Our picnic was held in September in Queen's Park, New Westminster. All were very pleased with the new site as the children's play area was next to the tables reserved by the society! Fun and games were the order of the day for children and adults with Nail Pounding and a Tug-of-War becoming traditional events at this time. The children, of course, always enjoy the Candy Toss. All in all, it was a good day.

We are now planning the last event of

the year, the November end of harvest "Back-End Do". It will be held at St David's Church Hall.

We hope the coming year will bring you joy.

## Cleveland

In July we held our annual picnic, holding it this year at the Berea Historical Society. We had it early because some of our members were planning to attend the convention in Minneapolis. Eight of us attended the convention, and we were joined by John and Kathryn Hughes, two of our members from Tucson, Arizona.

September found us at the Duncans, where we were pleased to have in attendance Roy and Kathleen Shimmin from Laxey, cousins of Ruth Thormann and Eileen Elliott, and Don and Dawn Lindsay from London, cousins of Florence Roseman.

In October we gathered at the Clarion Hotel for dinner. There were 41 persons in attendance, and several brought slides, some of which were of local meetings of years ago. We enjoyed identifying the people in the slides, many of whom have long since passed away.

Our annual Christmas party is scheduled for December 4th at a Hilton Hotel. We will not meet again until March because of possible inclement weather and the fact that our members are scattered in the greater Cleveland area.

## Society Contacts

(It is important that each society checks their listed contact to be certain it is correct. NAMA and WMA members around the world use these names and addresses.)

### CHICAGO

Florence Abbinanti, 9330 S Richmond Ave, Evergreen Park, IL 60642

### CLEVELAND

Mona Haldeman, 191 Glenview Drive, Avon Lake, OH 44012

### COLORADO

Sheila Kent, 5131 Jellison Court, Arvada, CO 80002

### FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

Ernest Cleator, 6 Selborne Drive, Douglas, IOM

### GALVA

Shirley Kelly, 316 NE 6th Ave, Galva, IL 61434

### GREATER WASHINGTON DC

J. Russell Woodgates, 2325 42th Street NW, #306, Washington, DC 20007-4941

### MINNESOTA

Joan Gill, 10215 38th Court N,

Plymouth, MN 55441

### NEBRASKA

Vicky Gobber, 214 Barrington Dr, Gretna, NE 68028

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Larry Fargher, 830 Kiely Boulevard, #200, Santa Clara, CA 95051

### ONTARIO

Bob Watterson, 76 Dunlop St, Apt #605, Richmond Hill, ON, L4C 2M5, Canada

### SALT LAKE

Russell A Cannon, 7720 South 700 East, Midvale, Utah, 84047

### SAN DIEGO

Ruth Smith, 4966 Rockford Drive, San Diego, CA 92115

### VANCOUVER

Vera Henry, 3142 W 32nd Ave, Vancouver, BC, V6L 2C1, Canada

### VICTORIAN MANX SOCIETY

Tom Corlett, 6 Burgundy St, Doncaster, Victoria 3108 Australia

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Kathleen Craine, 8 McGill Street, Kewdale, Western Australia 6105

### WISCONSIN

Pamela Kelly, 2001 South Thompson Drive, Madison, WI 53716

### WORLD MANX ASSOCIATION

David Caley, Kilmuir, Ballure Promenade, Ramsey, IOM



## Gift for Societies

At the NAMA Convention, the Honorable J. C. Cain, Speaker of the House of Keys, presented us with a number of audio tapes of a re-enactment of the 1927 Homecoming on the Isle of Man and accompanying copy of souvenir programme. To get them to the greatest number of members, it was decided to give one to each local society. If your society has not received one, please write to Joan Gill, 10215 38th Court North, Plymouth, MN 55441-1669.



**KNOW YOUR  
ANCESTORS**

by Edna W Cowin

1223 W Melrose Dr, Westlake, OH 44145-283

It was a pleasure to meet so many readers of this column and to see the interest in the subject at our recent convention.



We had two excellent workshop sessions on genealogy and both were filled to capacity. All of this gives me the encouragement and incentive to continue for another year. I appeal to members to share their information through the column. Material I receive is a wonderful source of research. After writing the column for almost 25 years I appreciate suggestions.

While some of the material distributed at the convention was copyrighted and I am unable to share it through this column, I am able to share some recommended books to read: *Family Writing* by Peter Stillman; *Heavens to Betsy* by Charles Fink; and *Time Line of History* by Daniel Boorstin.

The NAMA recently enrolled in *Meyer's Directory of Genealogy Societies in the US and Canada*. It is a complete listing of genealogy groups in both countries. Hopefully this will be useful to our members and also to interest new members.

I have also received some literature for those who use computers for their information from Gene Sys, 400 Dynix Drive, PO Box 9010, Provo, UT 84605-9010. If you are interested please write directly to the address given.

I am pleased to announce that Mr Stan Shimmin, Past President of NAMA, has agreed to share the writing of this column for the coming year. I agreed to be the clearing house for all mail, so please do not send your letters to Mr Shimmin.

Columbus ranks high among US cities in the number of repositories with genealogical resources. In addition to the sources available at government agencies, courts, churches, cemeteries, libraries and societies, microform records make it possible to research ancestors throughout North American and overseas countries.

The 1992 edition of the *International Genealogical Index* is available on microfiche at the Family History Centers in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, soon it will be available on CD-ROM as part of the Family Search software. The worldwide index contains about 187 million names.

The 1992 *Family History Library Catalog* is available on microfiche and on CD-ROM as part of Family Search. The catalog has two components: locality and surnames listings.

The *Social Security Death Index*, also part of Family Search on CD-ROM, is an index of deceased US citizens who received Social Security benefits between 1938, the year Social Security began, and 1988. The

information consists of the name, address at the time of application, and date and place of death.

Source: *Columbus Dispatch*, June 13, 1993, submitted by Carol Jacob of Defiance, Ohio.

I am also enclosing the addresses of some of the important genealogical centers in Ohio and Indiana, which may be of some use to NAMA members who are trying to do research in Ohio. You may wish to write for information to the following:

State Library of Ohio, Room 308, 65 S Front Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215; Ohio Genealogical Society (two addresses), PO Box 2625, Mansfield, Ohio 44906-0625 and Library Headquarters, 34 Sturges Avenue, Mansfield, Ohio 44906-0625; Portage County Chapter OGS, 6252 N Spring Street, Ravenna, Ohio 44266; Allen County Genealogy Society, PO Box 12003, Fort Wayne, IN 46862; and Allen County Public Library, 900 Webster Street, Fort Wayne, IN 46802.

I included Portage County because I know there was a community of Manx settlers in that area. My great grandfather and great grandfather, who immigrated from the Isle of Man, settled there, and then moved west to Indiana and Michigan. However, there were other immigrants and families there, as well.

Below is information on the Ohio Network of American History Research Centers. Each has extensive collections of their particular area.

The Ohio Network of American History Research Centers was established in 1970 to aid in the collection, preservation, and accessibility of research materials related to Ohio history. A central feature of the Network is the division of the entire state into seven distinct geographical areas. For information about the holdings and facilities of each of these Centers make you inquiries to the Network Representative at the following addresses:

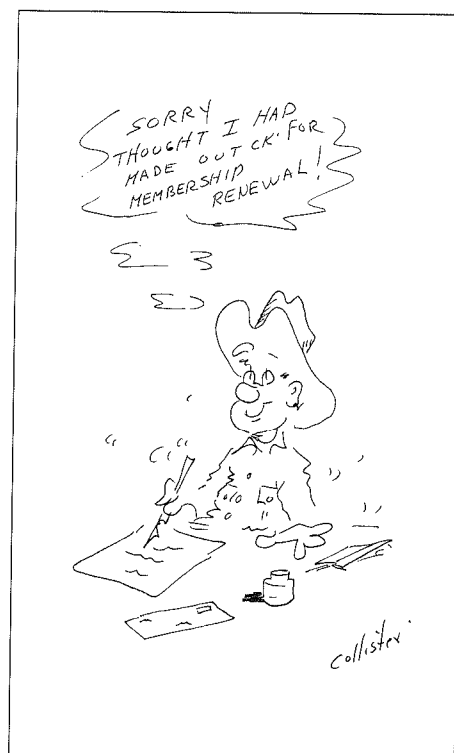
Western Reserve Historical Society, 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106-1703; Special Collections Department, Blegen Library, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, Ohio 45221-0113; Center for Archival Collections, 5th Floor Jerome Library, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0001; Archival Services, Bierce Library, University of Akron, Akron, Ohio 44325-0001; Archives-Library Division, Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211-2452; Archives and Special Collections, Paul Lawrence Dunbar Library, Wright State University

Library, Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001; and Archives and Special Collections, Alden Library, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701-2978.

Carol Jacob  
Defiance, Ohio

## Looking for:

Charles Gill and brother, last known address: 1956, US Army, Duncansville R D #2, PA, near Altoona, PA. Possible contact: Mrs Charles Gill, phone (814) 684-2284. If you have any information, please contact John D Cleator, 760 5th Plaza, Florissant, MO 63031.



Have you paid your current NAMA dues? If in doubt, check the mailing label on page 20 for the status of your membership. If money is due, please mail to NAMA treasurer Helen Drom, address on page 19. *Canadians* please note there is a change in your labels. The dollar amount due is now printed in *Canadian dollars* based on the rates listed on the enclosed membership form. Thanks to Clarence L Collister, Sr of Norman, OK for the cartoon. Oklahoma should be proud of Clarence as its ambassador at the NAMA Convention. He passed out Oklahoma flags, lapel pins and Sooner football schedules.

# Ladies Auxiliary

Greetings to the members of the Ladies Auxiliary!

Congratulations to past president Tina Cannell for four years of service, our delightful speaker E Mae Reese & Willard Reese, and to the Minnesota Manx for such a wonderful convention meeting.

In the winter months ahead, I hope to research the archives of the Ladies Auxiliary and NAMA to get a sense of the goals that have been achieved by this organization under the directions of my predecessors. With your help I hope we will set new worthy goals and achieve many positive outcomes. At the same time, we should not lose sight of the three objectives of the Ladies Auxiliary as set forth in our constitution:

1. The purposes of this Organization are for the mutual benefit and social welfare of the Manx people and their descendants.
2. To bring together the Manx women and their female descendants or any women married to Manx men.

3. To stimulate interest in and help the NAMA to the best of its ability.

While these objectives are very worthy, there is evidence that they have not been modified since the 1940s or earlier. Perhaps they should be reviewed and enhanced to include new objectives which would allow us to grow and become a stronger organization. I welcome your letters and advice.

The strength of our Ladies Auxiliary is both in our members and in our fund raising ability. We need funds to accomplish many of the activities that continue to make our group important such as funding of IOM Manx language achievement award and making contributions toward NAMA conventions.

As an experiment, I took the Ladies Auxiliary craft items left after the close of the Minnesota Convention to the fall Wisconsin Manx Society meeting along with a few new items; there we held a silent auction. Almost half of the items sold; the proceeds from that sale amounted to \$29.60 and a check in that amount has been sent to Dorothy Gawne, our treasurer.

er. This success makes me wonder if other societies would be willing to have sales to benefit the Ladies Auxiliary. Another suggestion has been made to ask members, who have the opportunity to shop on the Isle of Man, to locate unique items to bring as donations to our sale table at the next convention. We will also welcome hand-crafted items that are linked to our Manx heritage. It seems that members just can't get enough Manx mementos.

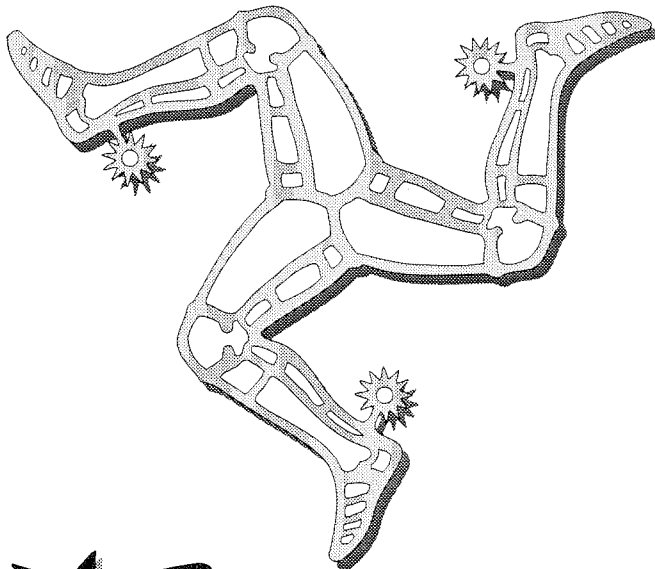
Please think about the Ladies' Auxiliary to NAMA in the next few days and then write a letter to me about your views of how it should go forward. It is your organization and it needs your ideas now!

May good health and much happiness  
Be yours this holiday season and always,  
Mary F Kelly, President



**Please Pay  
Your Dues!**

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## CALLING ALL KIDS

We are planning some special things just for you.

• First, we are looking for children who would like to have a pen pal from the Isle of Man. This would be a great way to learn about the Isle of Man and about someone your own age living in another country. You could exchange letters, pictures, tapes, etc. We have some sources on the Island that could match you up with someone your own age. We already have a list of several ten year olds from the Isle of Man who are interested in becoming pen pals with a North American student. If you are interested, please send your name, age and address to the Bulletin Editors.

• Here's something for you to do right now. Can you unscramble the names of these Manx towns? Can your mom and dad unscramble them??? The answers will be in the next issue of the Bulletin.

LEEP	DRIBE
MAYSER	LODEFAX
LETTOWCASN	YALEX
SLAGOUD	GAMOULDH

• Here's something for you to think about: Why are Manx cats tailless? Send your stories, poems, etc to the Bulletin and they will be printed in the next issue. We are looking forward to hearing your ideas.

## OBITUARIES

**Katherine Garrett**, of San Diego, CA, died suddenly July 20, 1994. She was born February 7, 1934 in New London, CN, of Welsh, English, Irish, and Scottish ancestry. Her father was a Captain in the US Navy, a graduate of Annapolis. Her grandfather was a marine engineer on the Panama Canal. She was the youngest of three girls; one sister lives in Imperial, CA, and the other lives in Texarkana, Texas, whom Katherine had visited just prior to her sudden death at the end of the return flight home.

Gordon and Katherine met in the Church Youth Group at the Park Boulevard Methodist Church of San Diego. Kate worked as a telephone operator for Bell Telephone, served as a Girl Scout leader trainer, and was foster-mother for twelve county children.

She is survived by her husband Gordon Lee Garrett; three children, Joanne Sue Pasqueretta, of Aurora, CO, Nancy Lee Halbert of Garden Grove, CA, and Dale

Vernon Garrett of San Diego.

Katherine was a loyal new member of the San Diego Manx Society.

The former **Betty Bridson**, wife of Major Eric Colville, passed away peacefully at Saddle Mews Nursing Home on August 18, 1994. She had been ill for three months and was brought back to the Island from Poland where her husband had been teaching English.

The daughter of Captain 'Ginger' Bridson, one of the characters of the Island and a Commodore of the Steam Packet, Betty was educated at the High School and trained as a GPO telephone operator. She worked at the Palace Hotel as a receptionist and at the Examiner offices.

In 1975 she went to Kenya to live for four years when her husband took up a teaching appointment. Then they spent five years in Birmingham before moving to Indiana. The Colvilles recently moved back to the Island and bought a home in Saddle Mews for their retirement but couldn't resist the opportunity to teach in Poland on a voluntary basis.

A memorial service for Betty was held at the Episcopalian chapel of St James in Howe, Indiana. At the end of the service two gifts were dedicated in memory of Betty—a tree and two cut-glass cruets for communion use. The tree 'autumn brilliance Amelanchier' produces white blossom in the spring and red leaves in autumn.

Betty is survived by her husband Eric; her children Valerie, David and Robin; brothers Bruce Bridson of Douglas and Philip Bridson of Desbarats, Ontario; sister Audrey who lives in Herefordshire; and seven grandchildren.

**William R Kermen**, 85, Forest Ranch, California, died July 22, 1994 at a hospital in Chico, California. A native of Washington, he was born August 22, 1908, a son of Frederick and Mary Ann Kermen. His father was from the Isle of Man.

"Doc", as he was known, married Virginia Cichirillo in Los Angeles in 1937. During World War II he served as a major in the Veterinary Corps inspecting meat for the Allied Forces in Australia. He retired from the Army Reserve as a colonel in 1968.

In 1946 he moved to Chico where he was employed by the State Bureau of Meat Inspection. He retired in 1975.

Survivors include his wife Virginia; a daughter, Mary Ann Stoffel; two sons, Michael and Robert; two brothers, Frederick "Fritz" and Clarence; nine grandchildren; and four great grandchildren.

## North American Manx Association Officers 1994/1996

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Webster Grove, MO

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Win Livingstone  
Willaston, Isle of Man

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10215 38th Court North  
Plymouth, MN 55441-1669

### 1st Vice President:

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P. O. Box 146  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

### 2nd Vice President:

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4831 Ft Sumner Drive  
Bethesda, MD 20816

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3727 Blaisdell South  
Minneapolis, MN 55409

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Santa Maria, CA 93455

### Bulletin Co-editors:

Sally Dahlquist  
Joan and Norman Gill  
10215 38th Court North  
Plymouth, MN 55441-1669

### Pres. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

Mary F Kelly  
PO Box 146  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527

### Sec./Tres. Ladies Aux. to NAMA:

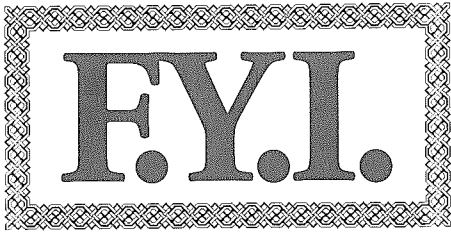
Dorothy Gawne  
8605 N. Merrill  
Niles, IL 60648

### Chaplain:

Rev. Devore Craine Smith  
4966 Rockford Rd.  
San Diego, CA 92115

### Trustees:

Mary Hayslett  
Alexandria, VA  
Sally Dahlquist  
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## Currency Exchange

Some NAMA members have used Ruesch International to obtain Foreign Bank Drafts and Foreign Check conversions for a fee of only \$2.00. They make sending funds to England, the Isle of Man, and other locations as simple as a phone call, 1-800-424-2923 or FAX 202-408-1211. Their new address, effective September 1994, is 700 Eleventh Street NW, Washington, DC 20001-4507.

## Genealogy Screen Saver

Put your ancestors' photos right on your computer screen with Photo Album Screen Saver. These photos move across the screen in user-selected configurations and frames. The cost is only \$39.95 and includes the first four photographs from ACCU-SOFT, INC, 630 S Rogers Rd, Olathe, KS 66062, (913) 764-5210, FAX (913) 764-5045.

## New Number

There is a new Manx telephone area code. In August it became 01624, replacing 0624.

## Lennon Wedding?

Cynthia, the ex-wife of Beatle John Lennon, has lived in Foxdale for many years. In her first TV interview for a decade made on a BBC Television programme about the Island, she revealed, "The first time Julian and me came to the Island's west coast the sea was calm and there were basking sharks and Julian said—this is where I want to get married. He hasn't found a girl yet, but he's working on it!

She added later, "Julian's late father John would have loved (the Island's) tranquility. When you live in a world of music and madness and lunacy, a place like the Isle of Man can only be good for the soul."

Source: *Isle of Man Examiner*, August 30, 1994.

## Friends of Queens Pier

The Queens Pier at Ramsey in the IOM was completed in 1886 and used for 84 years as a Landing Place for the steamers

plying from Liverpool, Fleetwood, Belfast and the Clyde to the Island. Queen Alexandra and King Edward VII and many other famous people have used the Pier when they visited the Island.

Many walked the Pier to enjoy the views and the refreshments in the cafe at its seaward end. This cafe burnt and was replaced by a fine shelter in 1991. This structure was vandalised within 24 hours of its opening and because of other damage and the deterioration of the main structure, the Pier was closed and has remained so for the past three years.

In January 1994, the Friends of Queens Pier, Ramsey was formed with the object of co-operating with the Government and Town Commissioners to get the Pier repaired, restored and re-opened. The annual membership subscription, £2 for adults, and donations should be sent to: The Hon Treasurer, Mr J Stokoe, 12 Riverbank Road, Ramsey, IOM, British Isles

## NAMA Membership List

A list of all the members of NAMA is available for \$3.00 from Helen Drom (address on page 19). This list may not be used for any commercial purpose or solicitation. You might use it to locate Manx when you are traveling, for genealogy research, helping to find Manx for your

society or for starting a new society.

## Deadlines

We plan to issue four NAMA Bulletins each year. We welcome and need your contributions to the Bulletin at any time. However, listed below are the deadlines by which we must receive your materials in order to make a given issue.

Deadline	Bulletin Issue
February 10	March
May 10	June
August 10	September
November 10	December

Please keep these dates in your reference files. We are looking forward to hearing from you. Photos, preferably black and white, are greatly appreciated with your articles. Material for the Bulletin is accepted at any time. The earlier, the better. If you wish to FAX your material, send to Norman Gill at 612-541-8705.

## Video

An excellent video, *Story of Mann*, was produced by the Manx Museum when they opened their new wing. This historical view of the IOM is narrated by Sir Anthony Quayle. If your society would like to borrow a copy of this video, contact Ron Quayle or Norman Gill. Their addresses are listed on page 19.

## Mailing Label Information

Line 1: membership TYPE (**Ind**=Individual, **Fam**=Family, **Soc**=Society and **Comp**=Complimentary) and TERM (**Year**=Yearly member and **Life**=Life member). Line 2: current year's dues and postage supplement status in U.S. dollars (**AMT**=amount due for your membership type and term, **Post**=postage supplement due and **TOT**=total amount due). The labels are produced about three to four weeks before you receive your Bulletin.

If the **TOT** amount on your label shows that you need to send a payment, please send a check today, made out to NAMA, in U.S. funds (or a check for equivalent Canadian funds drawn on a Canadian bank) to Helen Drom, 4960 Cherry Avenue, Santa Maria, CA 93455. Your prompt payment saves us the cost of reminder mailings.

NORTH AMERICAN MANX ASSOCIATION  
10215 38TH CT N  
PLYMOUTH MN 55441-1669

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 517  
Minneapolis, MN

Change of address: Clip label and send with new address