

THE

BLUE LION



VOL. 27 ISSUE 1

An **E-MAGAZINE** published for and by
THE FAMILY OF BRUCE INTERNATIONAL, INC. USA.

February 2021

Scottish North American Leadership Conference - SNACC December 4 – 6, 2020

The purpose of the conference is to raise awareness of Scotland and Scottish culture, to develop a better understanding of the roles, objectives and operations of the various governments, academic, non-profit and private sector organizations that operate in the Scottish-North American community, and to identify opportunities to enhance communication and collaboration within the community. Due to the Covid pandemic and their members not able to travel, the SNACC conference was held virtually via Zoom in December of 2020 which allowed more viewers who purchased tickets to benefit from the discussions! The founding partners of SNACC are The American-Scottish Foundation and CHICAGO SCOTS in association with St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, Council of Scottish Clans & Associations (COSCA), Clans And Scottish Societies of Canada (CASSOC), the Toronto, Ontario-based Scottish Studies Foundation and the University of Guelph. FOBI is a member of two of these organization – COSCA and CASSOC.

Charles, Lord Bruce was one of the keynote speakers, who presented and held a discussion on what the Declaration of Arbroath is to Scotland. In this issue of **THE BLUE LION**, Lord Bruce's presentation will be covered – see Page 4.

Other topics in the Conference included Scottish identity, Family vs. Clan, DNA and makeup of Scotland's People, Scotland's influence on North America, Lord Lyon update from the Lyon Court, and Cultural Impacts of Scotland. A number of these topics will be described in future **BLUE LION** issues.

The Link <https://scottishleadershipconference.com/> has more information about the Conference and an opportunity to access all the videos for \$25!



DEAR FAMILY—

As I write this issue of my President's Page on January 26, I note that the day before marked the 262nd anniversary of the birth of Robert Burns, the greatest Scottish poet and bard. In other years, the occasion would have been celebrated with Burns suppers all over the world. Haggis, neeps and tatties, whisky, toasts, poetry, and song would have been in abundance, as well as great Scottish fellowship. 2021 is quite different of course, as these dinners have all been cancelled due to Covid19. If celebrations were to be done, they were done individually or virtually. This month's photo is again one of better days. It is from the Minnesota St. Andrew's Society Burns Dinner of 2014 when I had the privilege and honor of toasting the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns.



Since it was 2014 and the 700th Anniversary of the Battle of Bannockburn, I took the opportunity to talk about the connection between Burns and King Robert and the Bruce family. It also was the year of the devolution vote in Scotland, so I wove a little of Burns the political radical into it. I spoke of the Burns poem, *Scots, Wha Hae* and Burns obvious admiration for the Bruce. I also told the story of Lady Catherine Bruce of Clackmannan, who invited Burns to Clackmannan Tower on August 26, 1787. Lady Catherine was born in 1696 so she was already 91 years old at the time. She was a fan of Burns and wanted to meet him. She was quite taken by him and while he was at Clackmannan she "knighted" him with the sword of King Robert that was in her possession at the time. Of course, this was not an official knighthood and he did not become Sir Robert Burns. Instead, he became a member of what

was called, and is still called, the Clackmannan Cavaliers. The sword, now in the possession of our chief, is still used to knight these Cavaliers. The story continues that, after she knighted him and he was still on his knees before her, Burns responded in the customary way by kissing Lady Catherine's hand. It is said that she told him, "Now stand up and give us a real kiss!" I like to think this is in the best tradition of Scottish womanhood and also in the best Bruce tradition! I am sure that Burns complied!

Changing subjects and regarding our chief, one of my duties as your president is to provide the chief with an annual state of the organization report. I did this in mid-December. I reported on our membership, our finances, and our activities for the year. 2020 being what it was, there was not much to report concerning activities such as games and fairs. But I was happy to report about our website and our new Facebook page. I also reported on our first ever virtual AGM in October. This month I received a wonderful handwritten response from the chief, who will turn 97 on February 17 by the way. I will share some of that with you.

The chief said he is still feeling somewhat under the weather as a result of his health issues in 2019, but his letter indicated to me that he was still feeling quite chipper and sharp. He praised the friendship they have with so many of our American members, and our organization in general, and how much they enjoy hearing from us through letters and photos. He complained about how Covid has impacted them and Scotland but maintained his wonderful sense of humor about it. He said that Lord Bruce is anxious to get Broomhall, the event center, up and running again. They had over 200 events scheduled there when the virus hit and had to be postponed or cancelled. His son Alexander has also just bottled some whisky using barley grown at Broomhall. It was so great to hear from him and I treasure the letters he sends. Until next time,

**YOURS AYE,
DON BRUCE, FSA SCOT
FOBI PRESIDENT**



2020 Games Held with Bruce Tent:

SE Florida Scottish Festival and Highland

Games – Plantation Heritage Park,
Plantation, Florida March 7, 2020 – Host –
Debra Gunn

Cheyenne Celtic Festival

408 S Lions Park Dr Cheyenne, Wyoming Sept
19-20 2020 – Host – Robert Bruce, Colorado
Commissioner

Facebook:

Launch of the Family of Bruce Intl Facebook Page
– Julie Goldsworth

Annual General Meeting:

Virtual Zoom AGM – Robert J. Bruce

Charitable Donations:

Scots' Charitable Society, Boston

Massachusetts \$250

"The Scots' Charitable Society is the oldest charitable organization in the Western Hemisphere. Originally Founded in 1657 in Massachusetts and incorporated in 1786, Scots' Charitable Society aims to help people of Scottish heritage by providing relief to Scottish-American individuals and families in need, and by granting undergraduate scholarships to members of the Scottish-American community. We are Scots helping Scots." <https://scots-charitable.org/>

Abbey Church of Dunfermline - \$500

The Abbey Church of Dunfermline aka Dunfermline Abbey was initially consecrated in 1150 AD. The Abbey consists of two churches: The Old Abbey where Robert the Bruce was initially buried in the choir area in 1329; and the New Abbey Church of Dunfermline which was dedicated in 1821. Robert the Bruce's remains were carefully reinterred in the New Abbey at that time.

<https://dunfermlineabbey.com/www/?p=15848>

The FOBI donation will help the daily costs to keep and maintain the Abbey. Charles, Lord Bruce is the programme patron of Friends of the Abbey Church of Dunfermline.

Member Charitable Donation Recognition

– Don Bruce \$100

Needless to say, due to the Covid Pandemic, we do not know at this time which games will have a Bruce tent in 2021! There are a number of games/festivals that are in the planning stage, and there will be an update in the future.

Some games such as the Stone Mountain Highland Games in October are scheduled to be held. If they are, FOBI will be there and will hold the AGM in person!

In the meantime, the FOBI Board is planning on some virtual Zoom meetings for Games Hosts/Commissioners to collaborate on regional/local events and some future Zoom meetings which will include members.

Send your ideas for discussion topics to familyofbruceinternational@gmail.com.

National Trust for Scotland - NTS USA

The NTS USA Foundation has introduced a Clan Partner Program which the Family of Bruce International has proudly joined. The Foundation supports the National Trust for Scotland to care for many of Scotland's most incredible places. The National Trust for Scotland Foundation USA encourages Americans to connect with the things that make Scotland unique – from coastlines to castles, from art to architecture, from wildlife to wilderness – and to protect them for future generations. <https://ntsusa.org/>

The benefits of being an NTS USA Clan Partner will benefit FOBI outreach to new audiences and recognition on their Clan Partner page. Other benefits for FOBI members are a 15% discount to the NTS USA membership, a subscription to the members' award winning magazine *Scotland in Trust* published three times a year, free access and parking to 90+ NTS heritage sites, reciprocal membership to heritage organizations around the globe, including the National Trust of England, Wales, and Northern Ireland, and invitations to special events in the USA.

To join or renew membership to the NTS USA use the code of BRUCE2021 at their website <https://ntsusa.org> JOIN.



What the Declaration of Arbroath is to Scotland and The Enduring Resonance of the Declaration

On Saturday morning, December 5, 2020, Charles, Lord Bruce began the discussion with a presentation on "What the Declaration of Arbroath is to Scotland". Following was a facilitated panel discussion with John Bellasai – COSCA President, Professor Donna Heddle – University of the Highlands & Islands, and Graeme Mackenzie – Chairman of the Association of Highland Clans & Societies.

There have been numerous articles and a dedicated Blue Lion in the spring of 2017 about the Declaration of Arbroath – 1320. These can be found in the Members Only page of the FOBI Website.

This article is meant to highlight the key points of the presentation and discussion.

- The Declaration of Arbroath is a survivor of the medieval period where the Scottish King's right to rule was soundly tested in combat and the moral right was soundly based in logic. This idea was collectively endorsed by King Robert's subjects and presented to the world in highly persuasive rhetoric which was truly significant for Scotland.
- The Declaration of Arbroath was conceived initially as a diplomatic weapon with much more firepower than the Scots could have ever hoped to deploy on the field of battle. It was prompted by the threat to Bruce's authority by external interference and focused on the strong leadership, character, and statesmanship of Robert Bruce.
- It is a keyhole insight into the 14th Century King and his followers, the ideas that moved them, the events that propelled them, and the circumstances they found themselves in 1320.
- Despite the victory at Bannockburn in 1314 Robert the Bruce was facing a serious threat to his legitimacy as King. After Bannockburn, the Scots experienced a significant defeat in Ireland where Robert's only brother, Edward, was killed in the battle of Faughart in 1318. Not only did he lose his only surviving brother but lost his record of winning battles since 1311.
- John Duns Scotus in 1302 concurred that a ruler's authority is conditional on amiable popular agreement. He addressed the issue of property rights and may have had the Plantagenet colonization of Scotland in mind with reference to Edward I of England who may have "stolen" another country.
- The granting of lands to supporters created resentment for those who still supported John Balliol. This created a threat in 1320 from those who threatened to bring rule back to a Balliol monarchy with support from the English.
- In 1319, the Pope "ordered" the King and three bishops to attend the papal court at Avignon in May of 1320. This order hinted at a new excommunication of the King and addressed the King's resistance to the Pope's previous requests to make peace; while, Edward II's incessant maneuvering against the Scots was intended to threaten the Scots back into English allegiance.
- In response, the letters written back to the Pope and Vatican had to address the legitimacy of King Robert I, and to stress it was the fault of Edward II that a long lasting peace was not forthcoming.
- The Scottish Barons acknowledged the concept of the King and the Community of the Realm, the King's claim to the throne, and the right to rule. They were bound by law and by the merits of the King, and in order to maintain their freedom, the Barons were certain to stand and support the King.
- In 1309, King Robert held his first parliament at St. Andrews and received the endorsement of the Church as contained in the Declaration of the Clergy. It has been suggested that the 1309 Declaration was a precursor to the 1320 Declaration and should be considered together.
- The soul of Scotland may lie within the six years between the Battle of Bannockburn and the Declaration of Arbroath. Bannockburn was the proudest military achievement in Scotland. It gave her freedom, it enabled her to find her soul, it created a national self-consciousness, it left her to work out her own identity and when it came to entering a Union with her auld antagonist in 1603. Scotland entered into that agreement as an equal – **free and unconquered.**



Bruce Heraldry

By Thomas Allen Bruce, CStJ, FSA Scot
Reprinted from the September 2009 Blue Lion

Though heraldry has its roots in antiquity, including in the standards borne before the Roman legions as they marched into battle, as it is known today, depicting shields with distinctive designs, heraldry began in the early 12th Century. The Bayeux Tapestry, a unique record of the invasion of Britain by the Normans, depicts only the most basic symbology on a few flags and shields, and what appears to be symbols on the shields are likely actually reinforcing materials. In the next century after the Battle of Hastings in 1066, as armor became heavier and helmets enclosed more of warrior's faces, it became necessary to have a way of identifying an armored warrior, and distinctive colorful designs began to be placed on a cloth cover over his chest armor- a "Coat of Arms." The convention of depicting armorial devices on a shield also began during this time in the late 11th and early 12th Centuries.

It may well be that "flying heraldry" that is, armorial flags, predated the use of armorial surcoats and shields.

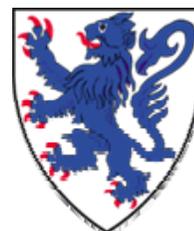
Often the shield is the only armorial symbol. Indeed, it is still possible today to obtain a Scottish Grant of Arms that includes no other devices besides a shield. Therefore, the design of each shield is distinct. The devices outside the shield if included at all will have meanings of their own, but it is still possible today to identify the owner of a Coat of Arms simply from the design of his shield.

Heraldry also had a civil as well as martial use from the beginning, as seals, usually employing armorial symbology, were used to sign important documents. It became the law in Scotland that each freeholder was required to have a Coat of Arms and seal.

Once again it must be stated that Armorial Bearings are owned by individuals. There is no such thing as "Family Arms." The convention that the Arms of family members are similar

came about because younger brothers desired to show their familial connections by having Arms based on those of their fathers, but rendered unique by the addition of distinct devices. Those Arms, though similar, are personal to each individual. Arms described here should not be adopted and used merely because of a claim of genealogical connection to or descent from their owners. As you may recall from earlier articles in this series, the "blazon" of a Coat of Arms is its legal description. The blazon is in a mixture of Old French, Latin, and English, and is a sort of shorthand that makes the description of a specific Coat of Arms easily understood by employing simple language that has very precise meaning. The background of the shield is described first; then the major divisions of the shield; then the minor divisions of the shield; then figures upon the shield. Then comes the parts outside the shield again described in specific ways. An artist familiar with the rules of blazon can paint a Coat of Arms accurately from the blazon.

The Family of Bruce was involved with the use of Heraldry from the very beginning. The earliest Bruce Arms on record are those of Bruce of Skelton, blazoned as "Argent, a lion rampant Azure armed and langued Gules." That is, a blue lion rampant, with red tongue and claws, on a silver background. These Arms date to soon after the Conquest, when the first Bruce was granted the lands of Skelton, but the use of the blue lion as a symbol probably dates to a time before systematic heraldry as we know it today. It is certain that the use of a lion as a symbol is a very ancient idea, and many families originating in Scandinavia and their descendants in what is now France and the Low Countries used the lion as their symbol. (Nisbet: 267)



The Arms of Adam de
Brusee,
Lord of Cleveland
and Skelton in the 11th
Century



Happy 97th Birthday
To Lord Elgin
February 17, 2021
From all at FOBI

Bruces Welcome
Thanksgiving Baby Boy



William Emry Bruce arrived on November 25, 2020, the day before Thanksgiving. Proud parents are members Charles and Shelby Bruce of St. Paul MN. Very happy grandparents are President Don Bruce and Kathy Bruce. William is a big boy, weighing 9 lbs. and measuring 21 inches at birth. All went well and William continues to grow and thrive and is a

voracious eater. His big brother Lachlan, age 3, is ecstatic to have a little brother. William Bruce shares a name with many famous Scots, most notably the Scottish architect who designed the family home of Broomhall, and the sixth Earl of Elgin. And, of course, our immediate past president too!

FLOWERS OF THE FOREST

Elizabeth Bruce Peterson of Minnesota
October 2020

Nadine Bruce of Ohio
December 2020



FOBI member Michael Bruce of California with his lovely wife and family of three daughters and their spouses

WHISTLING IN A SCOTTISH WIND

Whistling In A Scottish Wind (#3) A series of musings from William By William P. Bruce, FSA Scot

There are literally dozens of specialized tours you can take in Scotland which bring you to the places which you believe will have the most interest for you. There are those who trace the footsteps of one of the notorious Scottish brigands, or one of the true hero's. There are those which bring you to places where famous battles and other historic events took place. There are even those which cater to the tastes of those who consider themselves connoisseurs of "the water of life". And that is not all by any stretch of the imagination.

One of my favorite travel incentives in Scotland is visiting the smaller cities and towns which are usually not part of the major tourist routes. Consider the town of Aberlour. I suspect most of you, even those of you who have toured in Scotland, have never been there, unless you have traveled what some call the whisky trail, as one of the better known beverages of that genre is produced there. Aberlour is also the home of the world famous "Walker's Shortbreads". Although it is not possible to visit the commercial kitchens in which they are made (at least it wasn't when I was there last), the facility has a company store where all the varieties of this wonderful Scottish confection (cookie) are available for purchase. From beautifully packaged and artistically designed shapes, unique collectable tins and flavorful variants, to plastic bags of "seconds" at reduced prices, the variety seems endless. I wish I had had more time to spend there and sample the product. Fortunately for me and so many others, they are available all over the world, even in my neighborhood supermarket here in Minneapolis.

For those of you who may still be among the uninitiated as to the delights of "shortbreads", you have a real treat coming. Shortbreads are what we Americans would call a type of cookie, unique as they are. The ingredients are simple - flour and lots of butter - bits of other things - and a whole lot more butter. A well made and baked shortbread almost literally melts in your mouth - if you let it stay there for more than a few seconds - which

few are able to do. Phyllis and I enjoy sharing shortbreads with family and friends. She has a favorite shortbread recipe which is the basis for ones produced in our own kitchen. On the Sunday closest to the Feast Day of Saint Andrew, we serve these shortbreads along with Scottish breakfast tea to members of our church. People tell us they look forward to this every year.

Although there are shortbread cookies based on a variety of recipes made literally all over the world, there are few which can compare with the true Scottish variety. Rich, full, buttery flavor appeals to all, although we usually warn people that very young stomachs may not be able to cope with more than just a taste. So, if you have not previously done so, pick up a package of Walker's and give them a try. Even try baking your own. You will not be sorry.

William Bruce - February, 2021:



Phyllis Bruce at Walkers Shortbread Shop

Deb's Authentic Shortbread Recipe

Hands and work area must be COLD!!

2 Cups Sifted Flour - 1 Cup Soft Butter

½ Cup Sugar

Cream butter until soft and fluffy; add sugar gradually and work with butter until light; Add 1 ¾ Cup of Flour reserving ¼ Cup for Baking Board.

Turn dough out and gradually add remaining flour.

HANDS MUST BE COLD!!!

When dough cracks when kneaded stop adding flour. Flour the board and rolling pin and gently roll dough to 1/3 to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut out in rounds or your favorite cookie cutter

Bake at 300F for 30 - 35 minutes... should not be brown - only lose white color.

ENJOY with a wee cuppa



Membership Committee

Polly Bruce Tilford

The Family of Bruce International warmly welcomes new members who have recently joined!!!

“CEUD MILE FAILTE”

(ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND WELCOMES IN SCOTS GAELIC)

New Members:

North Carolina – Thomas Ford Hardin

New Life Members:

Indiana – Larry L. S. Bruce

New York – Adam J. Bruce and
Kathy Baldwin Keenan

2021 Annual Member Dues Reminder

\$25 dues are payable on January 1, 2021. Please write your check to Family of Bruce International and mail to:

Polly Bruce Tilford
5561 Earl Young Road
Bloomington, IN 47408

Or use PayPal
familyofbruceinternational@gmail.com

FOBI thanks you in advance for your timely 2021 dues payment. This will enable the Treasurer and Board to complete the 2021 budget plan more accurately to fund future events and scholarships.

Charitable Operations Committee

The Charitable Operations arm of Family of Bruce International invites members to provide ideas and nominations for charitable giving for 2021.

Thank you to all who have supported our Charitable Donations efforts.

All recommendations for Charitable Donations should be forwarded to:

Robert James Bruce
504 Sudbury Rd.
Linthicum, MD 21090

familyofbruceinternational@gmail.com

Checks for Charitable Donations should be made out to Family of Bruce International and noted it is for Charitable Operations and sent to Robert J. Bruce at the above address.

Since we are a recognized §501(c)(3) corporation for tax purposes, any gift you make to Family of Bruce is fully tax deductible. You can also make a donation in memory of a loved one and their name will be listed on the Tributes and Recognition Page. You will receive a letter acknowledging your donation from the FOBI Treasurer.

The Deadline for input to the NEXT ISSUE IS April 10, 2021!!

Please send pictures and/or stories to Deb Gottlieb at debgottlieb@bellsouth.net or by mail to 1495 Jones Road, Roswell, GA 30075

If you receive the E-Magazine via paper (black/white), it would be great if you would consider receiving **THE BLUE LION** via email.... It's in color!!! Thanks for considering!!! Don't worry.... If you can't receive it via email it will still be available to you via paper/mail!



GIFTS AND MERCHANDISE!!!!

Are you starting to think about gifts for your beloved Scottish family member or friend??

Please see our inventory below!!!

Also remember that memberships make great gifts!

www.familyofbruceinternational.org/merchandise/

You can order these items using the order form on the other side of page!!!

BOOKS -

The Elgins - 1766-1917 - by Sydney Checkland. Period history of the Earls of Elgin, their families, and Broomhall. \$24.00 (\$20 + \$4 shipping)

DVDs -

The 700th Anniversary of The Enthronement of Robert Bruce. The DVD contains footage of the events on Sunday, March 26, 2006. You will hear the incredible music and an upfront view of the church service at St. John's Kirk, and the Ceremony of Acclaim and events at Scone Palace. The DVD is approx. two hours long. **\$23.00** (\$20.00 + \$3.00 shipping)

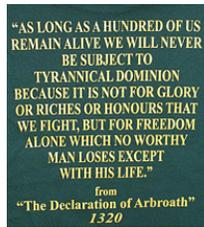
Bruce Family History - DVD version. Family of Bruce Video was produced in 1974 by our Chief, the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine to mark the 700th anniversary of the birth of King Robert I. This is a very fine exposition of the history of our Family, and should be in the collection of every Bruce. **\$23.00** (\$20 + \$3 shipping)

SHIRTS -

Green Bruce T-shirt with quote from the Declaration of Arbroath on the back. Sizes Small to 3XL - **\$19.00** (\$15 + \$4 shipping per shirt)



Front



Back

Robert the Bruce King of Scots T-shirt

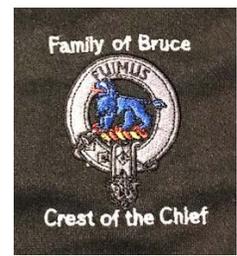
T-Shirts with the Robert the Bruce - King of Scots screen printed on the front Black



Sizes - Youth Med and Large
\$24.00 (\$20+\$4 shipping per shirt)

Adult Small - XXX-Large
\$26.00 (\$22 + \$4 shipping per shirt)

Family of Bruce International Polo - with Crest



Polo shirt in White, Black, or Gray.

Men's Polo is button down

Specify Mens or Womens

Adult - Med, Large, XL, 2XL **\$30.00**
(\$25 + \$5 shipping per shirt)

OTHER ITEMS -

Face Mask in Bruce Tartan or Bruce Tweed green (not shown) **\$18.00** including postage for each



Adjustable Single Strap Style



Ordered through the website or paper order form www.familyofbruceinternational.org website **HOME Page** and click on **ORDER NOW** or through the Order Form on the next page.

Tote Bag - **\$21.00** (\$18 +\$3 shipping)



Natural Color

Bruce Badges/Pin -



\$8.00
(\$5 + \$3 shipping per badge)

Family of Bruce International USA – Merchandise Order Form

Name:

Address:

ITEM	QTY	SIZE (if applicable)	COLOR (if applicable)	PRICE EACH	SHIPPING EACH	TOTAL EACH ITEM
Green Arbroath T Shirt		Sizes available S – M – L – XL – XXL - XXXL Please separately list quantity and sizes	Green	\$15.00	\$4.00 ea.	
Robert the Bruce King of Scots T-shirt		Sizes available: Adult Small – Medium – Large – XL – XX- Large – XXX-Large Youth Med and Large	Black	Adult - \$22.00 Youth – \$20.00	\$4.00 ea.	
Family of Bruce International Polo shirt with Crest		Men – button down Specify Men or Women Adult – Medium, Large, XL, 2XL	White, Black Gray	\$25.00	\$5.00 ea.	
Tote Bag		n/a	Natural	\$18.00	\$3.00	
Books						
The Elgins 1766 – 1917		n/a	n/a	\$20.00	\$4.00	
DVDs Bruce Family History		n/a	n/a	\$20.00 DVD	\$3.00	
700 th Anniversary of the Enthronement of Robert Bruce		n/a	n/a	\$20.00	\$3.00	
Bruce Badge/Pin New Rectangle		n/a		\$ 5.00	\$3.00	
Face Mask	Order through the website or paper order form www.familyofbruceinternational.org website HOME PAGE and click on ORDER NOW		Bruce Modern Tartan or Tweed	\$18.00 includes shipping	-	

TOTAL \$ AMOUNT INCLUDING SHIPPING \$.00

Please send an email to pollytilford@comcast.net to ensure the items desired are still available

Merchandise can be ordered by sending this order form and a check payable to
Family of Bruce International, Inc. to:

Mrs. Polly Bruce Tilford
5561 Earl Young Road
Bloomington, IN 47408

OR

PayPal (familyofbruceinternational@gmail.com)

OR

Via the website at www.familyofbruceinternational.org/merchandise/

Telephone (812) 336-5574

pollytilford@comcast.net



CHIEF

The Right Honorable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, KT, LLD, DLitt, DL, JP
Broomhall, Dunfermline, Scotland

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Editor **THE BLUE LION** – Deborah Bruce Gottlieb, FSA Scot
Webmaster for familyofbruceinternational.org – Robert James Bruce

Family of Bruce International is a non-profit organization established to create and promote kinship amongst its family members and to encourage interest in the Family of Bruce and its history. Membership is open to persons interested in their Scottish heritage and especially those who qualify by surname, by descent, or by recognized septs: Carlisle, Carruthers, Crosby, Randolph, and Stenhouse. It is the only such organization recognized by the hereditary chief of the Name of Bruce, The Right Honorable the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine.

Mission Statement: *To promote, honor, and preserve our Scottish and Bruce heritage by sponsoring activities, events, scholarships, and continual communication through the E-Magazine and website. We will therefore, provide educational information, tributes to our history and ancestors, and thereby attract Bruces and Septs into the enjoyment and celebration of our familial relationships.*

CREST*: A lion statant with tail extended Azure, armed and langued Gules.

ARMS*: Or, a saltire and chief Gules, on a canton Argent a lion rampant Azure.

MOTTO: *FUIMUS* – We have been.

* The Crest and Arms belong to the Chief and can only be used by him. Use of the Crest surrounded by a buckled belt is acceptable.



Table of Contents

Scottish North American Leadership Conference – SNACC	Page 1
President’s Message	Page 2
2020 Accomplishments	Page 3
2021 Games/Events/NTS USA	Page 3
SNACC – What the Declaration of Arbroath is to Scotland	Page 4
Bruce Heraldry	Page 5
Tributes & Recognition	Page 6
Whistling in a Scottish Wind (#3)	Page 7
Committee Updates	Page 8
Gifts & Merchandise	Page 9
Merchandise Order Form	Page 10
Family of Bruce Officers, Board of Directors, and Commissioners	Page 11
Table of Contents	Page 12
e-version extra - Image of Declaraton of Arbroath	Page 12
Insert – Family of Bruce International Membership Roster	

DECLARATION OF ARBROATH - 1320

A copy of the Declaration of Arbroath is in Edinburgh, Scotland at the National Archives.

There were three letters with the Declaration sent to the Pope on April 6, 1320. None of the letters were sent back to Scotland but it is suspected there are copies of them in the Vatican Library; although no proof of this.

Eight Earls and 31 Barons signed and put their seals and supported the document.

