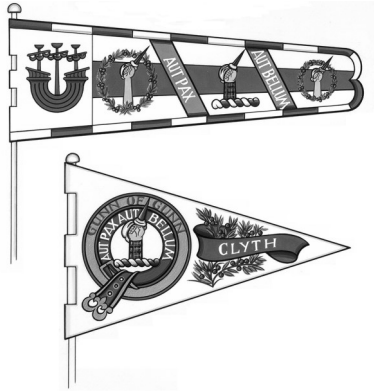


MARKS OF CLANSHIP

The Coat of Arms:

The Chief's standard and pinsel incorporate the Arms of Gunn, a three masted ship, juniper and the upraised arm with a basket hilt sword. The pinsel is displayed when representing the Chief.



The Crest Badge:

The traditional crest of the Chief of Clan Gunn is a naked arm grasping a sword. All members of the Clan are entitled to wear this crest surrounded by a strap and buckle bearing the Chief's motto "Aut Pax Aut Bellum" (Either Peace or War).

The Plant Badge:

Clansmen generally wore the plant badge of the Clan in their caps. This originally was roseroot, which flourishes in the vicinity of Castle Gunn. Later the juniper was adopted which grows in profusion in Kildonan.

The Clan Motto:

Aut Pax Aut Bellum

(Either Peace or War)

The War Cry:

The war cry of the Chief of Clan Gunn is unrecorded. The Commander's war cry is "Clyth" - the ancient seat of the Clan.

The Tartan:

The Gunn tartan is predominantly blue, green and black with a thin red stripe. The actual sett is: Red 4, Green 24, Black 24, Green 2, Blue 24, Green 4, Blue 24, etc.

The tartan may be obtained in modern dyes (dark blue and green); ancient (lighter blue and green); old reproduction (with a brownish hue) usually called hunting or weathered; and muted ancient.

The Clan Banner:



We have enclosed an application for membership in the Clan Gunn Society of North America. We hope that you will join and enjoy the camaraderie so many others have found among their fellow kin as well as increase your knowledge of Scotland and its history and culture, and enhance your pride in your Scottish heritage.

In completing the membership application, please print or write clearly. Your name and address become our first link to you.

You are invited to visit our website at:

www.clangunn.us

Send the completed application to:

Chuck Jamison

Membership Secretary

9382 Blue Oak Drive

Orangevale, CA 95662

E-Mail Address:

clangunnmembership@gmail.com

**Greetings from the
CLAN GUNN SOCIETY OF
NORTH AMERICA**



At one of the recent Scottish Highland events, you requested additional information about Clan Gunn. We are pleased to send the following information to you and hope that you will consider joining the

**Clan Gunn Society of
North America**

GUNN HISTORY

The Clan Gunn claims descent from the Norse Jarls (or Earls) of Orkney and from the ancient Celtic Mormaers (or High Stewards) of Caithness.

The name Gunn derives from Gunni, the grandson of the “Ultimate Viking” Sweyn Asleifsson—killed in the plunder of Dublin in 1171. Gunni acquired great estates in Caithness and Sutherland by his marriage to Ragnhild, a granddaughter of Rognvald, Earl of Orkney (later Saint Rognvald) and the great granddaughter of Moddan, Mormaer of Caithness. Moddan was reputed to be a kinsman of King Duncan of Albank, murdered by Macbeth.

Gunni was succeeded by his son Snaekol who lost forever for the Gunns the title to the Earldom of Orkney by murdering his cousin John, the holder of the title in 1231. From that time on the Gunns became Caithness-based.

Snaekol is reputed to have built Castle Gunn on a sea-girt rock at Bruan on the coast south of Wick. Nothing now remains of this historic seat of the Chiefs of Clan Gunn but the foundations.

In the 13th and 14th Centuries, the Chiefs of Clan Gunn were at the height of their power. They held the influential office of hereditary Crowner of Caithness. Their power was to be challenged, however, the Sinclairs and the Keiths who were becoming increasingly

strong in the area, having acquired lands there through marriage to local heiresses. By the late 15th Century the Gunns has been dispossessed of their most profitable estates. However, records show that in the middle of the Century, George Gunn of Ulbster, Chief of Clan Gunn and Crowner of Caithness still held his principal lands at Ulbster and Clyth in close proximity to Castle Gunn, but by this time the Chiefs had moved their living accommodation a mile further south to a more commodious castle at Halberry. The majority of Gunns were by now occupying the highland regions of Caithness in what have become the parishes of Latheron, Halkirk, and Reay.

In 1478, George Gunn of Ulbster—also known as “Am Braisdeach Mor” (Big Broochy) from the hugh brooch he wore as his insignia as Crowner—was killed at St. Tayre’s Chapel, near Ackergill Tower, in a battle with Clan Keith over land claims. After his death, the Clan split up into three distinct families with their own territories.

James, the eldest son of George Gunn of Ulbster, moved to Kildonan in Sutherland, where he obtained lands from the Earl of Sutherland. From James (or Seumas) are descended the MacSheumas (or Mac Hamish) Gunns.

Robert, the second son of George Gunn of Ulbster, established his family in Braemore, in the southern heights of Caithness.

From them are descended the Gunns of Braemore, also known as the Robson Gunns.

John, the third son of George Gunn of Ulbster, settled in Strathmore in the higher reaches of the River Thurso, above Westerdale. From him are descended the Gunns of Cattaig.

The Hendersons, Williamsons, and Wilsons of Caithness are said to be descended from Henry and William, two younger sons of George Gunn of Ulbster.

The Chiefship of the Clan was dormant for over 100 years. The head of the Clan, in the absence of a recognized chief, was Iain Gunn of Banniskirk, who was appointed Commander of the Clan Gunn in 1972. The appointment was made by the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, at the request of the landed and armigerous members of the Clan. Iain Alexander Gunn of Gunn, formerly of Banniskirk, is now the Chief of Clan Gunn following a decision by the Lord Lyon in September, 2015.

The first Clan Gunn Society was founded in 1821 as the Loyal and United Benevolent Society of the Clan Gunn. A second Society was established in London in the late 19th Century. The present Society was reconstituted in Edinburgh in 1960.

THE CLAN GUNN SOCIETY IN NORTH AMERICA

The Clan Gunn Society of North America was founded in 1969 in North Carolina by the Late Donald Williamson. Membership in the Society is open to persons of Gunn kinship by birth, marriage or adoption.

The Clan Gunn Society of North America (CGSNA) is headed by officers, elected at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The AGM is held during a USA or Canadian Scottish Highland games at a venue selected by the President. A CGSNA newsletter is published quarterly; some branches also publish a newsletter. The Clan Genealogist has accumulated and computerized thousands of pedigrees from clan members worldwide, and his services are available to all members in good standing.

The Society maintains a website with additional and current information about Clan Gunn at www.clangunn.us.

The main activity of each branch is to represent the Clan at a hospitality tent at the Scottish Highland Games and Events. This hospitality tent is your “home” at the event and provides an excellent place for you to become acquainted with your “cousins”.