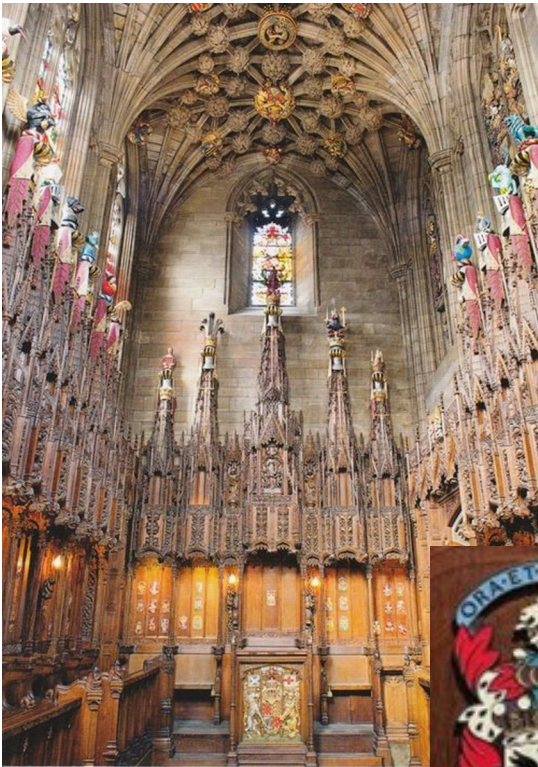


Ramsay Report

VOL. LXIII NO. III SEPTEMBER/2025

CHIEF THE R. HON. THE EARL OF DALHOUSIE, GCVO

Discovering the Thistle Chapel by Accident



Thistle Chapel Interior
&
Ramsay Crest Plate



Edinburgh, Scotland
May 6, 2025

Greetings from Edinburgh! I've been fortunate to spend the past month working remotely here and it has given me ample time to explore the city more deeply and take side trips around Scotland. Among the highlights for me so far in Edinburgh are a hike to the top of Arthur's Seat, tours of local castles, wandering around countless museums, and sampling local fare at various taverns around town. When my daughter Valentina Ramsay visited we took an excursion to Stirling Castle. And last week I toured Pitlochry for a couple of days to hike, boat, and tour the Blair Athol whisky distillery. Next week, it's Glasgow, Glencoe, Oban, Loch Lomond and the 2025 Highland Games in Gourock. So many great sites are within a couple hours train ride of Edinburgh.

One day last week I was strolling around St. Giles Cathedral and stumbled upon the Thistle Chapel tucked in the back south-east corner of the church. This magnificent chapel with carved and painted fittings of extraordinary detail was built in 1911 to honor the Order of the Thistle, founded in 1687 by King James VII. It is the most ancient and noble order of chivalry associated with Scotland, and membership is for the monarchy and the sixteen highest ranking Scottish knights and ladies. Each member of the order, including the sovereign, is allotted a stall in the chapel, above which his or her heraldic devices are displayed.

I was delighted to find four of our Ramsay clan chieftains had been gifted title as Knight of The Order of the Thistle. The Honorable James Andrew Broun-Ramsay, 10th Earl of Dalhousie was appointed in 1848 by Queen Victoria, The Honorable Fox Maule Ramsay, 11th Earl of Dalhousie was appointed in 1853 by Queen Victoria, The Honorable John Ramsay, 13th Earl of Dalhousie was appointed by in 1881 by Queen Victoria, and The Honorable Simon Ramsay, 16th Earl of Dalhousie was appointed in 1971 by Queen Elizabeth II (see photo of his heraldic plate).

Next time you're in Edinburgh, try to visit this amazing chapel and feel a wee proud moment of your Clan Ramsay heritage.

Submitted by
Craig Ramsay
Northern California Commissioner
Clan Ramsay International

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Where in the World is Elizabeth Colorado

Elizabeth Celtic Festival
Elizabeth, Colorado
July 19 & 20, 2025

Located about forty miles southeast of Denver and Incorporated in 1890, Elizabeth is the most populous town in Elbert County with about 1,800 full-time residents. During the third full weekend in July each year, the Elizabeth Celtic Festival brings another thousand visitors to this small town and to the fastest growing Celtic Festival in Colorado.

Casey Jones Park is a lovely venue of 103 acres, with an expansive Highland Athletics field and a large, wooded grove of Ponderosa Pines in which the Clans, Re-enactors, Celtic musicians including Pipers and Pipe Bands, Dancers, Artisans, and great food vendors bask in the shade during a Colorado summer weekend. There's plenty of room to celebrate and plenty of room to grow!

After an unhurried tent setup on Friday, Tim Hale, Michele Williams, and I relaxed in the shade and appreciated our prime location in Clan Row that had excellent visibility from the Main Gate. This visibility certainly helped attract both visitors and family to our location.

Many Celtic musicians that have settled along the Front Range of Colorado are, with few exceptions, world-class talents and have produced well-reviewed recordings and performed on radio programmes and stages throughout North America and Europe. At the Elizabeth Celtic Festival, favorites Avourneen, Ballyhooley, Wolf Loescher & The Growlers, Nerea the Fiddler, Marianne Goodland, and others filled the festival grounds with terrific music, entertaining the festival guests with great performances.

During the weekend, Don Ramsey (father of Matthew Ramsey), Linda Ramsey, Allison Wolfstar-Ramsey, Adam Ramsey, and Amanda Ramsey Hoard came to sign in and share stories of their family.

Our Colorado State Commissioner Emeritus, Wayne Premo, always contacts each visitor, that provided their nearest Ramsay relative information, and sends each a brief genealogical report and another invitation to join Clan Ramsay International, if not already a member.

On the athletics field, a new world record was set and confirmed in the Braemar Stone with a throw of 50' 8.5" by Burger Lambrechts, Jr. of Lincoln, NE. This is the first time that a 50' throw in this event has happened, and it happened at Elizabeth!

Highland athlete, Clan Ramsay family and friend, Drew Olvey, proudly sports the Ramsay Blue in competition. Drew's wife, Cameron Ramsey Olvey, is the daughter of Larry Ramsey of Fort Worth, TX, a regular visitor to the Games in Colorado. Drew competes at the Amateur "A" level, the highest of the amateur skill levels, and set two personal records in the Open Stone @ 35' 4" and in Light Hammer @ 100' 8" and was third place overall in A level at these Games. Drew is our Champion at the Games from now on and we're very happy to welcome him to the Clan Ramsay tent!



I can't remember just how many Clan Passports we all stamped for the wains, having lost count early on Saturday. I'd guess that over one hundred came by and received the highly sought-after Clan Ramsay unicorn stamp, and their choice from a variety of unicorn-themed toys and candies.

And, as our Colorado Branch tradition continues, the Pikes Peak Highlanders Pipes and Drums from Colorado Springs again honored Clan Ramsay with full band salutes on Saturday and Sunday, much to the appreciation of everyone present. There are many visitor-made videos and pictures of these band salutes to be found on various social media platforms.

We will continue to improve our festival presence and will strive to earn that honor at a future festival. Clan Ramsay was proud to be a Sponsoring Clan at these games, and we will likely continue to be as we all believe in festival organizer Matt Buchanan and his ongoing efforts to enhance and expand these games into a true destination. Our friends at Clan Murray won Honor Clan recognition, a well-deserved honor.

It's a short trip from the Denver International Airport to Castle Rock, only 15 miles west of Elizabeth, where many options for lodging and food are found, and there are numerous "Airbnb" rentals in the Elizabeth area. So, next season, we'd love to see all of our Ramsay kith and kin visit with us here, during the third full weekend in July, at the Elizabeth Celtic Festival. Yours aye.

Submitted by
Stephen Williams
Colorado State Commissioner
Clan Ramsay International

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Grandfather Mountain 2025

France.Canada.England.NewZealand.Australia.Scotland.
Netherlands.Belgium.Luxemburg.Sweden.Norway.USA

September, 2025

Greetings Members of Clan Ramsay
International,

I have had the opportunity to have travelled to several highland games this summer and to spend time with many of you. I look forward to seeing pictures and stories about your summer travels and the highland games in your areas.

I attended the Niagara Celtic Heritage Festival and Highland Games in Lockport NY. There I had the opportunity to visit the Scots of Canada tent and talk with them about Clan Ramsay International. It was there that I learned about their mission to advance Scottish cultural heritage in Canada. They provided me with resources to learn more about our history. For anyone who is new and thinking of hosting a Clan tent they have valuable information about achieving success representing a clan association at highland games with tips on hosting, table displays and ways to assist visitors at our tents. They also remind everyone of one of our main missions, encouraging new folks to join our association. Their website is a good resource for these materials. If interested you can find the information they offer at www.scotsofcanada.ca, look them up they are very kind.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Stone Mountain Highland Games in Stone Mountain, Georgia October 17th through 19th. We will be having our annual general

meeting on Saturday at 2pm.



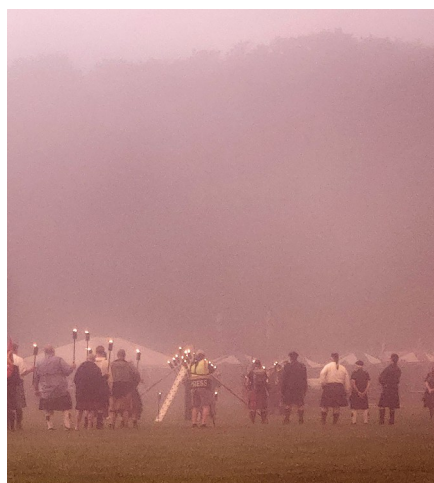
**Ora et Labora
Pam Ramsey
McNeil,
President
Clan Ramsay
International
Indiana
Commissioner**



Linville, North Carolina
July 10-13, 2025

The Sixty Ninth Annual Grandfather Mountain Highland Games was a weekend filled with family, festivities and plenty of fun. Thursday evening kicked off the games with a fog so thick you could barely see the person next to you. The participants of the opening ceremony, the calling of the Clans and the torch lighting were not visible as they stood on the field awaiting the start. Just as the ceremony began, the fog lifted and all participants became visible. This event is always an emotional display of heritage and unity. Many clan representatives gave charged speech and representation of their family and our man on the field John E. Ramsay, did us proud, giving a stirring tribute to our Clan before he added our torch to the Saltire Cross burning in the middle of the

field. It is always a moving experience.



Clan Ramsay was well represented and we welcomed many visitors to our tents over the course of the next three days. At our tent closest to the south entrance to the field, Jeremy and Haley Ramsey supplied us with their custom Viking throne made of swords along with a display of Jeremy's hand forged blades.

It proved to be a popular attraction and many people stopped in to talk and take pictures. At our tent located across the track, we provided information about Clan Ramsay International and shared our family history with those who stopped to visit. It was also there that we gathered to watch the Athletic events, Highland Dance, Exhibitions of Sheep herding and Bag piping competitions and to enjoy refreshments throughout the day.

Our Clan Ramsay Secretary Melanie Hudson participated in the color guard and proudly wore Clan Ramsay tartan for the opening ceremonies on Sunday. On Saturday and Sunday afternoons the rain came as a welcome break from the heat late in the day and provided us with plenty of puddles to play in. We are a resourceful bunch and as we faced the challenge of keeping the rain out of the tent as we shared some laughs. Sunday, I had the honor of representing our clan in the morning worship service and the Kirkin of the tartans. Soon after the service, we gathered for the Parade of Tartans and were well represented by those in attendance as we made

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

our way around the track and returned to our tent nearby to share fellowship. Clan Ramsay was proudly represented by several participants in the Athletic competitions on Sunday afternoon. Congratulations to all who participated.



It was a wonderful event this year and we were able to host many of our extended family members at the tent with rousing conversations and fun all weekend. However we deeply missed several this year who were unable to be in attendance for various reasons, keep them in your prayers. We do hope that soon we will all be together again and I always look forward to seeing you on MacRae Meadows.



CLICK TO VISIT SITE

Ora et Labora
Pam Ramsey McNeil,
President Clan Ramsay
International
Indiana Commissioner



Jeremy & Haley Ramsey

Ramsay News Shorts

LochLyn Competes @GMHG

Linville, North Carolina
 July 13 2025

The Ramsays made a remarkable showing at the 69th Grandfather Mountain Highland Games, held in July at the picturesque MacRae Meadows in Linville, North Carolina.

One of the standout moments of the event was watching three-year-old LochLyn Carswell compete with enthusiasm in one of the children's events. The young competitor took part in the Children's Kilted Run, a highlight that celebrates the energy and spirit of the youngest attendees. Beaming with pride, LochLyn crossed the finish line and earned a well-deserved medal, a moment that left everyone cheering.

Her mother, Michaila Carswell, couldn't contain her excitement, sharing, "LochLyn is so proud of herself for getting a medal in the Children's Kilted Run today. It's such a joy to see her embrace her heritage with such confidence at such a young age."

LochLyn's participation was particularly meaningful as she follows in the footsteps of her father, Christian Carswell, who has represented the clan in past Games competition, and seeing his daughter take her first steps in this vibrant community was a heartwarming milestone for the entire family.



Submitted by
 Ramsay Report Staff



Christian & LochLyn Carswell





9th July 2025

Clan Ramsay brought in its two newest members, identical twin granddaughters of VP Mike Ramsey, Adeline and Lorelai Ramsey. Proud parents are Stephen and Nikki Ramsey, son and daughter in law of Mike. All are healthy and doing well.

Submitted by
Mike Ramsey/VP
Texas Commissioner



Stephen Williams, Ryan Gurley, Matthew Ramsey

Estes, Colorado

It would likely fill several more pages in the Ramsay Report to completely convey all of the interesting happenings this year at Estes, but I did want to give a special mention to our friend Ryan Gurley, Rocky Mountain Convener for Clan MacDuff. At the Elizabeth Celtic Festival earlier in the year, we ran out of Uisge (gasp!) as we served drams to the Pipers and Drummers of the Pikes Peak Highlanders after their salute. Ryan came to our rescue with a Glenlivet 15 and saved the day. At Estes, I was able to return that favor with a new Glenlivet 15 and we also bestowed upon him a gift of a nice MacAllan 18 to establish and seal our alliance!

Submitted
Stephen Williams/Colorado Commissioner

Festival of Samhain & Its Ties to Halloween

Samhain, an ancient Celtic festival marking the end of the harvest and the onset of winter, was celebrated around October 31st to November 1st in ancient Scotland and Ireland. Rooted in Celtic spirituality, Samhain was a liminal time when the veil between the living and the spirit world was believed to thin, allowing ancestors and supernatural beings to cross over.

Communities lit bonfires for protection, made offerings to appease spirits, and practiced divination to glimpse the future. Costumes, often animal hides, were worn to mimic or ward off spirits. Halloween, derived from All Hallows' Eve, shares striking similarities with Samhain. The modern holiday, celebrated on October 31st, retains the mystical atmosphere with costumes, now more playful or spooky, echoing the Celtic tradition of disguising oneself.

Trick-or-treating parallels Samhain's offerings, while jack-o'-lanterns evolved from carved turnips used to repel malevolent spirits. Both festivals embrace the supernatural, blending fear and festivity. Though Halloween has Christian and commercial influences, its core—honoring the boundary between worlds—reflects Samhain's enduring legacy, connecting ancient Celtic traditions to today's spooky celebrations.

Submitted by Ramsay Report Staff



Hello Ramsay friends. This past summer, I was pleased to host a tent for Clan Ramsay at three Ontario/Canada festivals: the Northumberland Scottish Festival and Highland Games, the Uxbridge Scottish Festival and the Fergus Scottish Festival and Highland Games. The latter event in Fergus is one of the biggest in Canada and this year, they celebrated their 80th anniversary. Clan Ramsay was one of over 56 clans at the event. The weather was particularly hot and humid for a Canadian summer (over 90F) but that did not deter visitors from dropping by our tent



Husband, Rob and me in the clan parade



Lord Lyon

Several clan chiefs were in attendance at the Fergus event, as well as the Lord Lyon himself: Dr. Joseph John Morrow. My husband and I were very pleased when he dropped by the Clan Ramsay tent and shook hands with both of us. Unfortunately, I did not get a picture together with the Lord Lyon, but a friend shared this photograph with me.

I hope to be able to continue to host tents for Clan Ramsay in 2026 and look forward to welcoming new members.

As part of the Ramsay information that I share with tent visitors, I also have compiled this list of Ramsay locations in Ontario.

Many of these locations were named after George Ramsay, the 9th Earl of Dalhousie who was the Governor of Nova Scotia, and then the Governor General of Upper Canada in the 1800s.

Visitors to the tent find it interesting to look at this list, because they often don't realize the historic connection.

There are many other names that could be attached to this list if I made it Canada-wide – a project for me to work on over the winter months.

Brechin Ontario
Dalhousie Street – Toronto
Dalhousie Avenue – Hamilton
Dalhousie Avenue – St. Catharines
Dalhousie Crescent – Brampton
Dalhousie Crescent – Oshawa
Dalhousie Road – Glen Robertson
Dalhousie Road – Lanark
Dalhousie Street – Amherstburg
Dalhousie Street – Brantford
Dalhousie Street – Ottawa
Dalhousie Street – Vaughan
Port Dalhousie
Ramsay Avenue – Cambridge
Ramsay Avenue – Trenton
Ramsay Drive – Carleton Place
Ramsay Park – Rockwood
Ramsay Creek – Ottawa
Ramsay Road – London
Ramsay Road – Lakefield
Ramsay Street – East Gwillimbury
Ramsay Street – Amherstburg
Ramsay Street – Carleton Place
Ramsay Street – Holland Landing
Ramsay Township (Mississippi Mills)
Ramsayville, Ontario (Ottawa)
Ramsey, Ontario (Ghost Town outside of Sudbury)
Ramsey Drive – Haldimand
Ramsey Drive – Dunnville
Ramsey Lake – Sudbury
Ramsey Road – Kawartha Lakes
Ramsey Road – Little Britain
Ramsey Road – Niagara Falls
Ramsey Road – Sudbury
Ramsey Street – North Bay
Ramsey Street – St. Catharines



Submitted by
Andrea MacFarlane-Grieve
Commissioner for Ontario/Canada
Clan Ramsay International



Alan Ramsay Europe

38th Scottish Weekend at Alden-Biesen

Ramsay North Europe was present at the 38th Scottish Weekend organized on September 12 and 13 in the area of the Teutonic Knights Commandery in Alden-Biesen. It is in a magnificent setting that we have set up our quarters to participate in these events which have become an important part of Limburg tourism. Imagine an architectural ensemble dating from the 13th century comprising a moated castle and a whole complex of buildings intended for the Order of Teutonic Knights practicing charity but also involved in armed combat for the defense of Christianity.

The weekend was animated by a Pipe Band Championship Belgium, the Highland Dances competition, a Massed Band, a joint performance of the pipe bands that will surely give you goose bumps!

We didn't miss the Highlands Games with the trunk and weight throwers! Always impressive! We also visited several encampments in the orchard: the Sassenachs and the Scots, but also the Vikings of Svart Ulfarnir.

There will also be demonstrations on how to sword fight and wrestle like in the Middle Ages, archery, rugby or bagpipe demonstrations...For the little ones among us there are also the bounce houses, storyteller, make-up stand and living statue.

Mooh and Hamish the Highland cows are also back for a children's treasure hunt.

Finally, there was also the Carré Celtique occupied by dozens of shops where you could come out dressed from head to toe in Scots. Tastings of whiskey and other fiery beverages were also in the spotlight. We settled for a light beer...be careful...on the way back!

It was a moment of exchange between Ramsay and the other clans present in a wonderful Scottish atmosphere. An event not to be missed for next year!

Submitted by
Christian Jamin Ramsay
Commissioner
North Europe
Clan Ramsay
International



Between Tradition & Conviviality



This summer, the Ramsay Clan, had the pleasure of participating in the great Franco-Scottish party in July in Aubigny Sur Nère, an appointment now essential that brings together passionate about history, culture and friendship between our two countries. Between colorful kilts, music, decoration of Muse and moment sharing, it was an opportunity to make the Scottish spirit shine and strengthen the ties that unite our members.

Now, it's time for our fall activities. To start the season well, a friendly aperitif is organized on October 4, around a whiskey tasting. A warm moment that always discovers flavors and respects traditions faithful to the spirit of the clan.

And because Scotland is celebrated all year round, the unmissable appointment of Burns night, in tribute to the national poet Robert Burns, is already noted. It will be on January 24, 2026. As always, this evening promises singing, recitation, good pulpit and of course the famous haggis, accompanied by his glass of whiskey.

The Ramsay Clan, continues to bring Scottish culture to life with pride, conviviality and passion.

Submitted by
Marie Corinne Corbet LeFranc
Commissioner EU Grand East
Clan Ramsay International



CLAN RAMSAY INTERNATIONAL, INC
434 SKINNER BOULEVARD
DUNEDIN, FLORIDA 34698

PAGE 8

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
January 1, 2024 -December 31, 2024

BEGINNING BALANCE 01-01-24 CHECKING ACCOUNT \$4,973.64

RECEIPTS

USA MEMBERS DUES One Year Dues (64)	\$2,317.45
USA MEMBERS DUES Two Year Dues (20)	\$1,546.23
EU MEMBERS FEES 10% OF RECEIPTS	\$156.47
AUSTRALIA MEMBER (1)	\$38.11

TOTAL \$4,058.26

DISBURSEMENTS

NEWS LETTER PRINTING	\$780.55
NEWS LETTER POSTAGE	\$144.11
NEWS LETTER EDITOR	\$1,000.00
FOOD FOR ANNUAL MEETING	\$906.18
GRANDFATHER HIGHLAND GAMES	\$514.00
LOCH NORMAN GAMES	\$508.00
LONE STAR GAMES	\$30.00
MIDDLE TN HIGHLAND GAMES	\$140.00
SALADO GATHERING (2023 and 2024)	\$70.00
SHERMAN TEXAS GAMES	\$25.00
STONE MOUNTAIN GAMES	\$389.00
INTERNET SERVICES	\$385.60
MEMBER TIES SOFTWARE	\$75.00
STATE OF FLORIDA CORPORATE FEE	\$69.00
SCHOLARSHIP FOR DANCING (Clara Bruner)	\$543.75
DNA KITS (Mike Ramsey)	\$6.75

TOTAL \$5,586.94

OPERATING DEFICIT -\$1,528.68

BALANCE OF CHECK ACCOUNT 12-31-24 \$3,444.96

SCHWAB ACCOUNT CASH INVESTMENT \$15,117.95

NET CASH WORTH \$17,034.23

CURRENT AMOUNT IN SCHWAB \$16,299.95

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

DAVID F RAMSEY TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

KATHY SEELEY ASSISTANT TREASURER

Balance in the Check Account 07-21-25 \$4606.66



NEWSLETTER OF CLAN RAMSAY INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Festival aka Scotfest

PAGE 9

Estes Park, Colorado
September 5, 6, & 7, 2025

The Long's Peak Scottish-Irish Festival is one of the largest festivals of its kind in North America, and Clan Ramsay was happy to again represent our family once again at the 49th Anniversary of these games.

Your intrepid team of Tim Hale, Michele Williams, Matthew Ramsey, Tyler Premo (and his friend Cody) handled the setup on Thursday afternoon. We could not have had better weather for this year, with highs in the high 60's and lows in the mid 40's. Not a drop of rain or flake of snow.

Friday morning began at 9:00 am with students and staff of Estes Park Elementary School, some several hundred strong, and quite a large group of regional homeschool parents and students. After these groups visited the highland athletics they began to arrive in the tents. We brought in several pounds of candies to hand out, charged up the stamp pad for clan passports, and welcomed a crowd of very well-behaved children with excellent questions about history, tartan, kilts, arms, and unicorns! We had a very calm yet steady flow of festival goers.

Saturday is always the "big day" at Estes, and this Saturday was no exception. We had a full tent with Matthew and Megan Ramsey and their three wonderful children, Matthew, Emma, and Kaylee, as well as Wayne Ramsey Premo and his son Tyler, along with his grandson, Wyatt. Ginny Premo and Jesse Glover with their daughter, Annie, and the crew was rounded out with Tim Hale and his daughter, Jeannie, along with Michele Williams, and yours truly. Matthew, Emma, and Kaylee love to stamp the passports and hand out small prizes to the visiting children. They handle that part of the Games with expert skill. It's truly something to behold!

We had eighteen sign-ins, many of whom were learning about Clan Ramsay for the first time. Wayne, Tim, and Michele were able to engage with everyone and effectively answer questions. One of our first guests on Saturday was Dale Ramsay of Jacobsburg, Ohio, visiting for the first time. His excitement was infectious as he was learning about Ramsay history and his own heritage. All in all, he spent almost an hour with all of us and I'm sure we'll be seeing him on our membership rolls quite soon.

Our resident Highland Athlete, Drew Olney, dropped by with his wife Cameron along with his father-in-law Larry Ramsey, and his lovely wife, that we spoke of in the Elizabeth Celtic Festival article elsewhere in this month's Ramsay Report. Once again, Drew set new Personal Records, this time in the Braemar Stone and placing third overall in Amateur "A" competition.

If you've ever attended this festival, you know that it has served as the AGM Host Games for many Clans over the years, and that the Estes Park area is a very desirable destination.

However, with the positives I've tried to share about these games, more than a few negatives have become a reality. Fees and attendee ticket prices have steadily increased over the past few years, with almost every event now separately ticketed at additional cost. The cancellation of the very popular Parade of Clans through downtown Estes Park as well as the Torchlight

Ceremony are only two of the reductions in the events. This trend is not unique to these Games, but Clan registration fees have reached an all-time high, along with another yearly increase of fees for athletes, pipe bands, soloists, and vendors. In exchange for the increased fees for Clans, fewer weekend passes are offered, no festival program, and no commemorative ribbon/pin are provided. Also, as there seemed to be insufficient schedules of events posted around the grounds, and with the festival program priced at \$10 each, many attendees expressed their confusion and dismay at not being able to know when and where events were occurring.

Though this festival has been considered the proverbial "gold standard" for many years, the ongoing increases in fees, have (in our collective opinions) crossed the line in 2025 and, as a result, have now made this festival cost prohibitive. Unless the festival organizers recognize and reverse the negative impact of continuing to offer less and charge more, coupled with the observed declining clan and performer attendance as a result, the Colorado Branch of Clan Ramsay International will not be able to represent our Clan at this festival in 2026. Yours aye.

**Submitted
Stephen Williams
Colorado State Commissioner
& Members Branch Members**

CLICK TO
VISIT SITE



Matthew, Emma, and Kaylee Ramsey
Our Clan Ramsay
Colorado Branch Future!

The Clan DNA project is focused on male Ramsay/Ramsey paternal lines, to trace surnames as far back as possible. To accomplish this, we have been giving away a free Y-DNA kit each quarter to a male member or female member with a living male Ramsay/Ramsey father/uncle/brother/cousin.

One of the most common types of DNA tests is autosomal. This compares DNA from both sides of the family back to about 5 generations. Farther back than that, there are just too many people we are all related to, and this type of test is not as helpful for finding matches to paternal lines.

However, we have found this type of test useful when a female member is trying to find any living male members of her genetic line, which might not be known. It is also useful to male Ramsay/Ramsey members, even if they have already submitted their own Y-DNA sample, but are trying to locate other males who have not yet submitted a Y-DNA sample.

Here are two examples of how autosomal DNA tests can help find Ramsay/Ramsey kin.

Thomas Henry Ramsey has been a member of the Family Tree DNA project for many years, and has matched up with the E-haplogroup genetic family. He has performed the highest level of Y-DNA test, the Big Y, which helps match up common male ancestors for centuries. We knew through Y-DNA that Thomas was related to a larger group of about 30 men who can trace their ancestry back to Ayrshire, Scotland, but he had not yet been able to directly link his line to other matches.

I persuaded Thomas to add the autosomal test to his account. Family Tree DNA was able to use his existing sample to perform this added test, without a new cheek swab. When his results came back about a month later, he had a close match named Michael Ramsay in South Australia. Through their correspondence, they determined that they share a great grandfather in Ireland. Their family histories also showed this great grandfather to have come from Scotland.

We have now persuaded Michael to submit his own Y-DNA sample, which will hopefully find a link among several branches of Australians and Americans, who are proven to have a genetic link to Scotland. I'll report back with results in a couple of months, after results are returned.

Another recent example is with John Clifford Ramsay, who through Y-DNA testing had matched up with another member, Deedee Ricketts, whose grandmother was a Ramsay. Her distant cousin James Ramsey, related to her through their 2nd great grandfather James P Ramsay, submitted their Y-DNA test.

I persuaded both John and Deedee to upgrade their DNA kits to include the autosomal test. They did match



up again, reinforcing their Y-DNA results, and they also now have several other potential matches to pursue.

One interesting aspect to their Y-DNA matches that we hope to learn more about with autosomal, is that their closest matches have the surname Maitland. One of those matches, a Justin Maitland, has a family story that their ancestor was kidnapped as a child, and the father was unknown. It is very likely that this ancestor was a genetic Ramsay, adopted by the Maitland family.

Research has also linked these Maitland and Ramsay lines to the Bannockburn House, where records indicate that the property was sold to William Ramsay of Barnton and Saughieburn in 1787, then was transferred to Ramsay Gibson Maitland "through succession", and the inherited by Sir James Ramsay Gibson Maitland in 1876.

We hope to find out more about this Maitland/Ramsay connection as we receive more DNA results.

If you would like to participate in the Ramsay/Ramsey DNA project, please contact

Mike Ramsey at snsmike@prodigy.net



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**Submitted by
Mike Ramsey
Vice President
Clan Ramsay
International
Texas Commissioner**

2025 GAMES SCHEDULE

2025 AMG Stone Mountain Highland Games

October 17th-19th, 2025
Stone Mountain Park
Stone Mountain, GA
<http://www.smhg.org/>
David F. Ramsey

Moab Celtic Festival October 17th-19th, 2025

Center Street Ballpark
Moab, Utah
www.scotsontherocksmoab.org
Stephen Williams

54th Annual Scottish Christmas

Walk of the Clans December 6th, 2025

Alexandria, Virginia
Sponsored by the
Campagna Center
www.campagnacenter.org

Early 2026 Events Central Florida Scottish Highland Games

January 17th & 18th 2026
Central Winds Park
Winter Springs, FL
www.flascot.com
David F. Ramsey

Sherman Celtic Festival March 2026

Pecan Grove Park-West
Sherman, Texas
www.shermancelticfest.com
Mike Ramsey

2025 Stone Mountain Highland Games: Tickets & Park/Vehicle Pass Required

Clan Ramsay International is thrilled to host its 2025 Annual Group Meeting (AGM) during the Stone Mountain Highland Games, October 17-19, at Stone Mountain Park, GA. This gathering is a perfect chance to reconnect with old friends and make new ones amid the lively atmosphere of one of America's top Scottish festivals. Expect vibrant pipe bands, Highland dancing, and clan camaraderie at our tent. Check www.smhg.org for details.

To join the fun, you'll need two tickets: a Highland Games admission ticket and a Stone Mountain Park Pass. The Games ticket covers festival entry, including Saturday's massed bands and Sunday's clan gatherings. However, Stone Mountain Park requires a separate Park Pass for **vehicle entry*** to its 3,200-acre grounds, ensuring smooth parking and shuttle access. Without it, you'll face gate fees or delays, potentially missing Friday's AGM kickoff at the Hilton Northeast Atlanta. Save hassle by purchasing both in advance via the Games website, where Park Pass options are often bundled.

Don't let logistics keep you from friends and festivities. Grab your Highland Games ticket and Park Pass now, and join Clan Ramsay for an unforgettable weekend of laughter and connection in Georgia.

Only one pass required per vehicle.

Submitted by
David Ramsey
Treasurer
Clan Ramsay International



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Editor

Mona Ramsey

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